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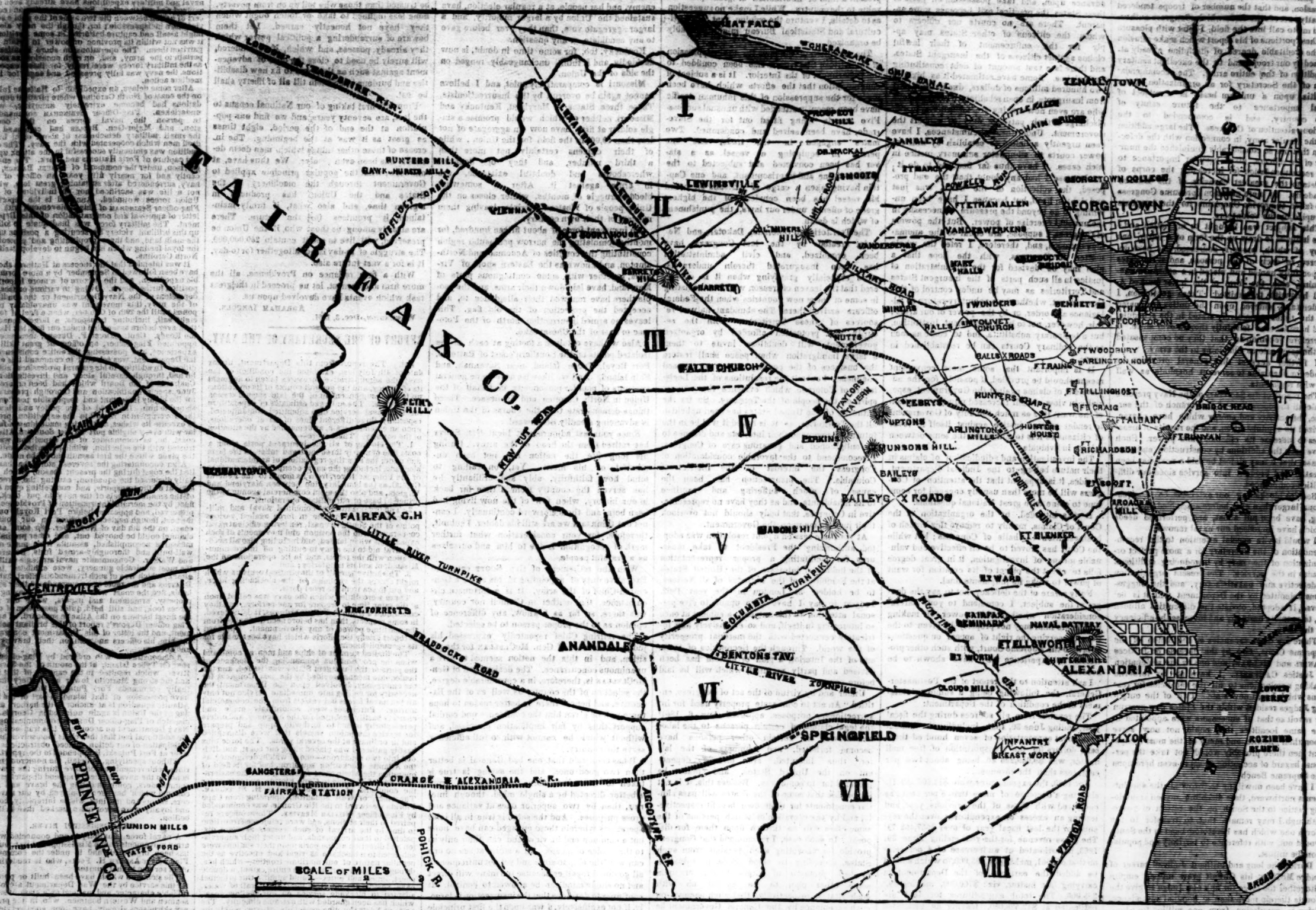
THE NATIONAL LINES BEFORE WASHINGTON.

A MAP EXHIBITING THE DEFENCES OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL, AND POSITIONS OF THE SEVERAL DIVISIONS OF THE GRAND UNION ARMY.



THE ARMY BEFORE WASHINGTON.

The interest which attaches to the military operations of the National army on the line of the Potomac, has induced us to present the readers of the TIMES with the above very complete and accurate map of the impregnable lines on the Virginia side of the National Capital. These masterly defences sweep from the neighborhood of Great Falls, ten miles above Washington, southward to the mouth of the Accotink Creek, 15 miles below the City; and occupy the arc of a circle the outermost point of which, in the direction of the main body of the enemy at Manassas, may be fixed at Flint Hill. This territory is actually in possession of our troops; the National pickets and reconnoitering parties frequently pushing miles nearer the rebel host, but fully maintaining the ground embraced between the dotted line traced on the map, and the banks of the Potomac.

The principal permanent fortifications, which the rebels, if they attempt them, will find to be an impassable barrier to their ambitious designs upon the Capital, have been enumerated by title and position in the General Orders of Gen. McCLELLAN, but are, for the first time, located and named upon the present map. How perfect the circle they describe about the city and that of Alexandria, will be perceived at a glance. To state how heavy is the armament of these posts; how numerous the bodies of men detailed for their defence, and what skill in gunnery these new artillerists have already attained, would be a revelation more valuable to the enemy than instructive to the loyal reader. It is enough to say that officers of European armies, skilled in the latest results of military engineering, pronounce the works in front of Washington as absolutely impregnable against the largest assailing force, if held by no more than fifty thousand men.

Another novel and useful trait of our present map is its geographical definition of the territory occupied by each of the eight divisions constituting the grand defensive army. They are indicated by dotted lines extending from the river to the outer defensive lines, and distinguished by the Roman numerals, I, II III, &c.

POSITION OF THE SEVERAL DIVISIONS.

I..Gen. GEORGE A. McCALL,
II..Gen. WILLIAM F. SMITH,
III..Gen. FITZ-JOHN PORTER,
IV..Gen. IRVIN McDOWELL,
V..Gen. LOUIS BLENKER,
VI..Gen. WILLIAM B. FRANKLIN,
VII..Gen. SAMUEL P. HEINTZELMAN,
VIII..Gen. EDWIN V. SUMNER.

The force embraced in each of these divisions, is, it is needless to say, withheld from publication. It is only known that at the general review, on the 18th ult., seventy-six regiments of infantry, seventeen batteries of artillery, and seven regiments of cavalry, forming an aggregate of seventy-five thousand men, passed in line before Gen. McCLELLAN; while it is also known that immense reserves, occupying the fortifications and the camps, and acting as redoubled picket-guards, made no appearance in that splendid parade. We reproduce from the columns of the TIMES, the following schedule of the several divisions, as represented on that occasion:

GEN. M'CALL'S DIVISION.
Twelve regiments of infantry.
Two batteries.
One regiment of cavalry.

GEN. SMITH'S DIVISION.
Ten regiments of infantry.
Two batteries.
One regiment of cavalry.

GEN. FITZ JOHN PORTER'S DIVISION.
Thirteen regiments of infantry.
Three batteries.
Two regiments of cavalry.

GEN. M'DOWELL'S DIVISION.
Eleven regiments of infantry.
Three batteries.
One regiment of cavalry.

GEN. BLENKER'S DIVISION.
Eleven regiments of infantry.
Two batteries.
Deckett's regiment of mounted riflemen.

GEN. FRANKLIN'S DIVISION.
Twelve regiments of infantry.
Three batteries,
One regiment of cavalry.

GEN. HEINTZELMAN'S DIVISION.
Seven regiments of infantry.
Two batteries.
One regiment of cavalry.

Gen. SUMNER, upon his return from California, was at once placed in command of an Eighth Division, assigned to the west bank of the Potomac, below Alexandria; and to constitute his command twelve regiments of infantry, with a corresponding strength of artillery and cavalry, have been drawn from the reserved force upon the Maryland side of the river. We have also reason to believe that Gen. ERASMUS D. KEYES has been ordered with a powerful body of troops to a point on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, near Springfield, whence at the proper time a movement will no doubt be made to outflank the insurgent positions at Manassas Junction.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

In the midst of unprecedented political troubles we have cause of great gratitude to God for unusual good health and most abundant harvests.

You will not be surprised to learn that, in the peculiar exigencies of the times, our intercourse with foreign nations has been attended with profound solicitude, chiefly turning upon our own domestic affairs. A disloyal portion of the American people have, during the whole year, been engaged in an attempt to divide and destroy the Union. A nation which endures factious domestic divisions is exposed to disrespect abroad, and one party, if not both, is sure, sooner or later, to invoke foreign intervention. Nations thus tempted to interfere are not always able to resist the counsels of seeming expediency and ungenerous ambition, although measures adopted under such influences seldom fail to be unfortunate and injurious to those adopting them.

The disloyal citizens of the United States, who have offered the ruin of our country in return for the aid and comfort which they have invoked abroad, have received less patronage and encouragement than they probably expected. If it were just to suppose, as the insurgents have seemed to assume, that foreign nations in this case, discarding all moral, social and treaty obligations, would act solely and selfishly for the most speedy restoration of commerce, including, especially, the acquisition of cotton, those nations appear as yet not to have seen their way to their object more directly or clearly through the destruction than through the preservation of the Union. If we could dare to believe that foreign nations are actuated by no higher principle than this, I am quite sure a second argument could be made to show them that they can reach their aim more readily and easily by aiding to crush this rebellion than by giving encouragement to it.

The principal lever relied on by the insurgents for exciting foreign nations to hostility against us, as already intimated, is the embarrassment of commerce. Those nations, however, not improbably saw from the first that it was the Union which made, as well our foreign as our domestic commerce. They can scarcely have failed to perceive that the effort for disunion produces the existing difficulty, and that one strong nation promises more durable peace, and a more extensive, valuable, and reliable commerce, than can the same nation broken into hostile fragments.

It is not my purpose to review our discussions with foreign States, because, whatever might be their wishes or dispositions, the integrity of our country and the stability of our Government mainly depends, not upon them, but on the loyalty, virtue, patriotism and intelligence of the American people. The correspondence itself, with the usual reservations, is herewith submitted. I venture to hope it will appear that we have practised prudence and liberality towards foreign Powers, averting causes of irritation, and, with firmness maintaining our own rights and honor. Since, however, it is apparent that here, as in every other State, foreign dangers necessarily attend domestic difficulties, I recommend that adequate and ample measures be adopted for maintaining the public defences on every side, while, under this general recommendation, provision for defending our coast line readily occurs to the mind. I also, in the same connection, ask the attention of Congress to our great lakes and rivers. It is believed that some fortifications and dépôts of arms and munitions, with harbor and navigation improvements, at well selected points upon these, would be of great importance to the national defence and preservation.

I ask attention to the views of the Secretary of War, expressed in his report upon the same general subjects.

I deem it of importance that the loyal regions of East Tennessee and Western North Carolina should be connected with Kentucky and other faithful parts of the Union by railroad. I, therefore, recommend, as a military measure, that Congress provide for the construction of such road as speedily as possible.

Kentucky will no doubt coöperate, and, through her Legislature, make the most judicious selection of a line. The Northern terminus must connect with some existing railroad, and whether the route shall be from Lexington or Nicholasville to the Cumberland Gap, or from Lebanon to the Tennessee line, in the direction of Knoxville, or on some still different line can easily be determined. Kentucky and the General Government coöperating, the work can be completed in a very short time, and when done it will be not only of vast present usefulness, but also a valuable permanent improvement worth its cost in all the future.

Some treaties, designed chiefly for the interests of commerce, and having no grave political importance, have been negotiated, and will be submitted to the Senate for their consideration. Although we have failed to induce some of the commercial Powers to adopt a desirable mitigation of the rigor of maritime war, we have removed all obstructions from the way of this humane reform, except such as are merely of temporary and accidental occurrance.

I invite your attention to the correspondence between Her Britanic Majesty's Minister, accredited to this Government, and the Secretary of State, relative to the detention of the British ship *Perthshire* in June last by the United States steamer *Massachusetts*, for a supposed breach of the blockade. As this detention was occasioned by an obvious misapprehension of the facts, and as justice requires that we should commit no belligerent act not founded in strict right as sanctioned by public law, I recommend that an appropriation be made to satisfy the reasonable demand of the owners of the vessel for her detention.

I repeat the recommendation of my predecessor in his annual message to Congress in December last, in regard to the disposition of the surplus which will probably remain after satisfying the claims of American citizens against China, pursuant to the awards of the Commissioners under the Act of the 3d of March, 1859.

If, however, it should not be deemed advisable to carry that recommendation into effect, I would suggest that authority be given for investing the principal over the proceeds of the surplus referred to in good securities, with a view to the satisfaction of such other just claim of our citizens against China as are not unlikely to arise hereafter in the course of our extensive trade with that Empire.

By the act of the 5th of August last, Congress authorized the President to instruct the commanders of suitable vessels to defend themselves against and to capture pirates. This authority has been exercised in a single instance only.

For the more effectual protection of our extensive and valuable commerce in the Eastern seas, especially, it seems to me that it would also be advisable to authorize the commanders of sailing vessels to recapture any prizes which pirates may make of the United States vessels and their cargoes and the Consular Courts established by law in Eastern countries to adjudicate the cases in the event that this should not be objected to by the local authorities.

If any good reason exists why we should preserve longer in withholding our recognition of the independence and sovereignty of Hayti and Liberia, I am unable to discern it. Unwilling, however, to inaugurate a novel policy in regard to them without the approbation of Congress, I submit for your consideration the expediency of an appropriation for maintaining a *Chargé d'Affaires* near each of those new States. It does not admit of doubt that important commercial advantages might be secured by favorable treaties with them.

The operations of the Treasury during the period which has elapsed since your adjournment have been conducted with signal success. The patriotism of the people has placed at the disposal of the Government the large means demanded by the public exigencies. Much of the national loan has been taken by citizens of the industrial classes, whose confidence in their country's faith, and zeal for their country's deliverance from its present peril, have induced them to contribute to the support of the Government the whole of their limited acquisitions. This fact imposes peculiar obligations to economy in disbursement and energy in action.

The revenue from all sources, including loans for the financial year ending on the 30th of June, 1861, was $86,835,900 27; and the expenditures for the same period, including payments on account of the public debt, were $84,578,034 47, leaving a balance in the treasury, on the 1st of July, of $2,257,065 80 for the first quarter of the financial

year ending on Sept. 30, 1861. The receipts from all sources, including the balance of July 1, were $102,532,509 27, and the expenses $98,239,733 09, leaving a balance, on the 1st of October, 1861, of $4,292,776 18.

Estimates for the remaining three-quarters of the year and for the financial year of 1863, together with his views of the ways and means for meeting the demands contemplated by them, will be submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Treasury. It is gratifying to know that the expenses made necessary by the rebellion are not beyond the resources of the loyal people, and to believe that the same patriotism which has thus far sustained the Government will continue to sustain it till peace and union shall again bless the land. I respectfully refer to the report of the Secretary of War for information respecting the numerical strength of the army, and for recommendations having in view an increase of its efficiency, and the well-being of the various branches of the service intrusted to his care. It is gratifying to know that the patriotism of the people has proved equal to the occasion, and that the number of troops tendered greatly exceeds the force which Congress authorized me to call into the field. I refer with pleasure to those portions of his report which make allusion to the creditable degree of discipline already attained by our troops, and to the excellent sanitary condition of the entire army. The recommendation of the Secretary for an organization of the militia upon a uniform basis is a subject of vital importance to the future safety of the country, and is commended to the serious attention of Congress. The large addition to the regular army, in connection with the defection that has so considerably diminished the number of its officers, gives peculiar importance to his recommendation for increasing the corps of cadets to the greatest capacity of the Military Academy. By mere omission I presume Congress has failed to provide Chaplains for the hospitals occupied by the volunteers.

This subject was brought to my notice, and I was induced to draw up the form of a letter, one copy of which, properly addressed, has been delivered to each of the persons, and at the dates respectfully named and stated in a schedule, containing, also, the form of the letter marked A, and herewith transmitted. These gentlemen, I understand, entered upon the duties designated at the times respectively stated in the schedule, and have labored faithfully therein ever since. I therefore recommend that they be compensated at the same rate as Chaplains in the army.

I further suggest that general provision be made for chaplains to serve at hospitals as well as with regiments.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy presents in detail the operations of that branch of the service, the activity and energy which have characterized its administration, and the results of measures to increase its efficiency and power. Such have been the additions by construction and purchase, that it may almost be said a navy has been created and brought into service since our difficulties commenced.

Besides blockading our extensive coast, squadrons, larger than ever before assembled under our flag, have been put afloat, and performed deeds which have increased our naval renown.

I would invite special attention to the recommendation of the Secretary for a more perfect organization of the navy by introducing additional grades in the service. The present organization is defective and unsatisfactory, and the suggestions submitted by the Department will, it is believed, if adopted, obviate the difficulties alluded to, to promote harmony and increase the efficiency of the navy.

There are three vacancies on the Bench of the Supreme Court, two by the decease of Justices DANIEL and MCLEAN, and one by the resignation of Justice CAMPBELL. I have so far forborne making nominations to fill the vacancies for reasons which I will now state. Two of the outgoing Judges resided within the States now overrun by revolt so that if successors were appointed in the same localities they could not now serve upon their circuits, and many of the most competent men there probably would not take the personal hazard of accepting to serve even here upon the Supreme Bench.

I have been unwilling to throw all the appointments northward, thus disabling myself from doing justice to the South on the return of peace, although I may remark that to transfer to the North one which has heretofore been in the South would not, with reference to territory and population, be unjust.

During the long and brilliant Judicial career of Judge MCLEAN, his Circuit grew into an empire altogether too large for any one Judge to give the Courts therein more than a nominal attendance, rising in population from one million four hundred and seventy thousand and eighteen, in 1830, to six millions one hundred and fifty-one thousand four hundred and five, in 1860. Besides this, the country generally has outgrown our present Judicial system.

If uniformity was at all intended, the system requires that all the States shall be accommodated with Circuit Courts, attended by Supreme Judges, while, in fact, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Florida, Texas, California and Oregon have never had any such Courts.

Nor can this well be remedied without a change of the system because the adding of Judges to the Supreme Court, enough for the accommodation of all parts of the country with Circuit Courts, would create a Court altogether too numerous for a judicial body of any sort, and the evil of it be one that will increase as new States come into the Union.

Circuit Courts are useful, or they are not useful. If useful, no State should be denied them. If not useful, no State should have them. Let them be provided for all or abolished as to all.

Three modifications occur to me, either of which I think would be an improvement upon our present system. Let the Supreme Court be of convenient number in every event.

Then, first, let the whole country be divided into circuits of convenient size, the Supreme Judges to serve in a number of them corresponding to their own number, and independent Circuit Judges be provided for all the rest.

Or, secondly, let the Supreme Judges be relieved from Circuit duties, and Circuit Judges provided for all the Circuits.

Or, thirdly, dispense with Circuit Courts altogether, leaving the judicial functions wholly to the District Courts and an independent Supreme Court.

I respectfully recommend to the consideration of Congress the present condition of the statute laws, with the hope that Congress will be able to find an easy remedy for the many of the inconveniences and evils which constantly embarrass those engaged in the practical administration of them.

Since the organization of the Government Congress has created some five thousand acts and joint resolutions, which fill more than six thousand closely printed pages, and are scattered through many volumes. Many of these acts have been drawn in haste and without sufficient caution, so that their provisions are often obscure in themselves or in conflict with each other, or, at least, so doubtful as to render it very difficult for even the best informed persons to ascertain precisely what the statute law really is.

It seems to me very important that the statute laws should be made plain and intelligent as possible, and be reduced to as small a compass as may consist with the fullness and prescience of the will of the Legislature and the perspicuity of its language; these well done, would, I think, greatly facilitate the labors of those whose duty it is to assist in the administration of the laws, and would be a lasting benefit to the people by placing before them, in a more accessible and intelligible form, the laws which so deeply concern their interests and their duties. I am informed by some, whose opinions I respect, that all the acts of Congress now in force, and of a permanent and general nature, might be revised and re-written, so as to be embraced in one volume, or at least two volumes, of ordinary and convenient size, and I respectfully recommend to Congress to consider of the subject, and if my suggestion be approved, to devise such plan as to their wisdom shall seem most proper for the attainment of the end proposed. One of the unavoidable consequences of the present insurrection is the entire suppression in many places of all ordinary means of administering civil justice by the officers and in the forms of existing law. This is the case, in whole or in part, in all the insurgent States, and as our armies advance upon, and take possession of, parts of these States, the practical evil becomes more apparent. There are no courts nor officers to whom the citizens of other States may apply for the enforcement of their lawful claims against citizens of the insurgent States, and there is a vast amount of debt constituting such claims. Some have estimated it as high as two hundred millions of dollars, due in large part from insurgents, in open rebellion, to loyal citizens who are even now making great sacrifices in the discharge of their patriotic duty to support the Government. Under these circumstances, I have been urgently solicited to establish by military power courts to administer summary justice in such cases. I have thus far declined to do it; not because I had any doubt that the end proposed, the collection of the debts, was just and right in itself, but because I have been unwilling to go beyond the pressure of necessity in the unusual exercise of power. But the powers of Congress, I suppose, are equal to the anomalous occasion, and, therefore, I refer the whole matter to Congress, with the hope that a plan may be devised for the administration of justice in all such parts of the insurgent States and Territories as may be under control of this Government, whether by a voluntary return to allegiance and order, or by the power of our arms; this, however, not to be a permanent institution, but a temporary substitute, and to cease as soon as the ordinary Courts can be reëstablished in peace.

It is important that some more convenient means should be provided, if possible, for the adjustment of claims against the Government, especially in view of their increased number by reason of the war. It is as much the duty of Government to render prompt justice against itself in favor of citizens as it is to administer the same between private individuals.

The investigation and adjudication of claims in their nature belong to the Judicial Department. Besides, it is apparent that the attention of Congress will be more than usually engaged for some time to come with great National questions.

It was intended, by the organization of the Court of Claims, mainly to remove this branch of business from the halls of Congress; but while the Court has proved to be an effective and valuable means of investigation, it in great degree fails to effect the object of its creation for want of power to make its judgments final.

Fully aware of the delicacy, not to say the danger of the subject, I commend to your careful consideration whether this power of making judgments final may not properly be given to the Court, reserving the right of appeal on questions of law to the Supreme Court, with such other provisions as experience may have shown to be necessary.

I ask attention to the report of the Postmaster-General, the following being a summary statement of the condition of the Department:

The revenue from all sources during the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1861, including the annual permanent appropriation of seven hundred thousand dollars for the transportation of free mail matter, was $9,049,296 40, being about two per cent. less than the revenue.

For 1860, the expenditures were $13,606,759 11, showing a decrease of more than 8 per cent., as compared with those of the previous year, and leaving an excess of expenditures over the revenue for the last fiscal year of over $557,462 71 The gross revenue for the year ending June 30, 1863, is estimated at an increase of 4 per cent on that of 1861, making $8,683,000, to which should be added the earnings of the Department in carrying free matter, viz: $700,000, making $9,383,000. The total expenditures for 1863 are estimated at $12,528,000, leaving an estimated deficiency of $3,145,000 to be supplied from the Treasury in addition to the permanent appropriation.

The present insurrection shows, I think, that the extension of this District across the Potomac River at the time of establishing the Capital here, was eminently wise, and, consequently, that the relinquishment of that portion of it which lies within the State of Virginia was unwise and dangerous. I submit, for your consideration, the expediency of regaining that part of the District and the restoration of the original boundaries thereof through negotiations with the State of Virginia.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior, with the accompanying documents, exhibit the condition of the several branches of the public business pertaining to that department. The depressing influences of the insurrection have been especially felt in the operations of the Patent and General Land Offices. The cash receipts from the sales of public lands during the past year have exceeded the expenses of our land system only about $200,000. The sales have been entirely suspended in the Southern States, while the interruption to the business of the country, and the diversion of large numbers of men from labor to military service, have obstructed settlements in the new States and Territories of the Northwest.

The receipts of the Patent-office have declined in nine months about $100,000, rendering a large reduction of the force employed necessary to make it self-sustaining.

The demands upon the Pensionoffice will be largely increased by the insurrection. Numerous applications for pensions, based upon the casualties of the existing war, have already been made. There is reason to believe that many who are now upon the pension roll and in receipt of the bounty of the Government are in the ranks of the insurgent army, or giving them aid and comfort.

The Secretary of the Interior has directed a suspension of the payment of the pensions of such persons upon proof of their disloyalty. I recommend that Congress authorize that officer to cause the names of such persons to be stricken from the pension roll.

The relations of the Government with the Indian tribes have been greatly disturbed by the insurrection, especially in the Southern Superintendency, and in that of New-Mexico. The Indian country south of Kansas is in the possession of the insurgents from Texas and Arkansas. The agents of the United States, appointed since the 4th of March, for this superintendency, have been unable to reach their posts, while the most of those who were in office before that time have espoused the insurrectionary cause, and assume to exercise the powers of agents by virtue of the commission from the insurrectionists. It has been stated in the public Press that a portion of these Indians have been organized as a military force, and are attached to the army of the insurgents. Although the Government has no official information upon the subject, letters have been written to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs by several prominent chiefs, giving assurance of their loyalty to the United States, and expressing a wish for the presence of the Federal troops to protect them. It is believed that upon the repossession of the country by the Federal forces the Indians will readily cease all hostile demonstrations and resume their former relations to the Government. Agriculture, confessedly the largest interest of the nation, has not a department nor a bureau, but a clerkship only assigned to it in the Government. While it is fortunate that this great interest is so independent in its nature as not to have demanded and extorted more from the Government, I respectfully ask Congress to consider whether something more cannot be given voluntarily with general advantage.

Annual reports exhibiting the condition of our agriculture, commerce and manufactures, would present a fund of information of great practical value to the country. While I make no suggestion as to details, I venture the opinion that an Agricultural and Statistical Bureau might profitably be organized.

The execution of the laws for the suppression of the African Slave-trade has been confided to the Department of the Interior. It is a subject of congratulation that the efforts which have been made for the suppression of this inhuman traffic have been recently attended with unusual success. Five vessels being fitted out for the Slave-trade, have been seized and condemned. Two mates engaged in the trade, and one person in equipping a vessel as a slaver has been convicted and subjected to the penalty of fine and imprisonment, and one Captain having taken a cargo of Africans on board his vessel has been convicted of the highest grade of offence under our laws, the punishment of which is death.

The Territories of Colorado, Dakotah and Nevada, created by the last Congress, have been organized, and civil administration has been inaugurated therein undera uspices especially gratifying when it is considered that the leaven of treason was found existing in some of these new countries when the Federal officers arrived there. The abundant natural resources of these Territories, with the security and protection afforded by organized government, will doubtless invite to them a large immigration when peace shall restore the business of the country to its accustomed channels. I submit the resolutions of the Legislature of Colorado, which evidence the patriotic spirit of the people of the Territory. So far the authority of the United States has been upheld in all the Territories, as it is hoped it will be in the future. I commend their interests and defence to the enlightened and generous care of Congress. I recommend to the favorable consideration of Congress the interest of the District of Columbia. The insurrection has been the cause of much suffering and sacrifice to its inhabitants, and as they have no representative in Congress, that body should not overlook their just claims upon the Government.

At your late session a joint resolution was adopted, authorizing the President to take measures for facilitating a proper representation of the industrial interests of the United States at the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, to be holden at London in the year 1862. I regret to say I have been unable to give personal attention to this subject—a subject at once so interesting in itself, and so extensively and intricately connected with the material prosperity of the world. Through the Secretaries of State and of the Interior, a plan or system has been devised and partly matured, which will be laid before you.

Under and by virtue of the act of Congress, entitled "An act to confiscate property used for insurrectionary purposes, approved Aug. 6, 1861, the legal claims of certain persons to the labor and service of certain other persons have become forfeited, and numbers of the latter, thus liberated, are already dependent on the United States, and must be provided for in some way. Besides this, it is not impossible that some of the States will pass similar enactments for their own benefit respectively, and by the operation of which persons of the same class will be thrown upon them for disposal. In such case, I recommend that Congress provide for accepting such persons from such States, according to some mode of valuation *in lieu protanto* of direct taxes, or upon some other plan to be agreed on with such States respectively, that such persons on such acceptance by the General Government be at once deemed free, and that in any event steps be taken for colonizing both classes, or the one first mentioned if the other shall not be brought into existence, in some place or places in a climate congenial to them. It might be well to consider too, whether the free colored people already in the United States could not, so far as individuals may desire, be included in such colonization. To carry out the plan of colonization may involve the acquiring of territory, and also the appropriation of money beyond that to be expended in the territorial acquisition. Having practiced the acquisition of territory for nearly sixty years, the question of constitutional power to do so is no longer an open one with us.

The power was at first questioned by Mr. JEFFERSON, who, however, in the purchase of Louisiana, yielded his scruples on the plea of great expediency. If it be that the only legitimate object of acquiring territory is to furnish homes for white men. This measure effects that object; for the emigration of colored men, leaves additional room for white men remaining or coming here. Mr. JEFFERSON, however, placed the importance of procuring Louisiana more on political and commercial grounds than on providing room for population

On this whole proposition, including the appropriation of money with the acquisition of territory, does not the expediency amount to absolute necessity, that without which the Government cannot be perpetuated. The war continues. In considering the policy to be adopted for suppressing the insurrection, I have been anxious and careful that the inevitable conflict for this purpose shall not degenerate into a violent and remorseless revolutionary struggle. I have, therefore, in every case thought it proper to keep the integrity of the Union prominent as the primary object of the contest on our part, leaving all questions which are not of vital military importance, to the more deliberate action of the Legislature. In the exercise of my best discretion, I have adhered to the blockade of the ports held by the insurgents, instead of putting in force by proclamation the law of Congress enacted at the late session for closing those ports. So also obeying the dictates of prudence as well as the obligations of law, instead of transcending, I have adhered to the act of Congress to confiscate property and for insurrectionary purposes. If a new law upon the same subject shall be proposed, its propriety will be duly considered. *The Union must be preserved*, and hence all dispensable means must be employed. We should not be in haste to determine that radical and extreme measures, which may reach the loyal as well as the disloyal, are indispensable. The Inaugural Address at the beginning of the Administration, and the Message to Congress at the late special session were both mainly devoted to the domestic controversy out of which the insurrection and consequent War have sprung. Nothing now occurs to add or subtract to or from the principles or general purposes stated and expressed in those documents. The last ray of hope for preserving the Union peaceably expired at the assault upon Fort Sumter, and a general review of what has occurred since may not be unprofitable. What was painfully uncertain then is much better defined and more distinct now, and the progress of events is plainly in the right direction. The insurgents confidently claimed a strong support from north of Mason and Dixon's line, and the friends of the Union were not free from apprehension on the point. This, however, was soon settled definitely, and on the right side. South of the line of noble little Delaware, led off right from the first. Maryland was made to seem against the Union; our soldiers were assaulted, bridges were burned, and railroads torn up within her limits, and we were many days at one time without the ability to bring a single regiment over her soil to the Capital. Now her bridges and railroads are repaired, and open to the Government. She already gives seven regiments to the cause of the Union, and none to the enemy, and her people, at a regular election, have sustained the Union by a larger majority, and a larger aggregate vote, than they ever before gave to any candidate, or any question.

Kentucky, too, for some time in doubt, is now decidedly, and I think, unchangeably ranged on the side of the Union.

Missouri is comparatively quiet, and I believe cannot again be overrun by the insurrectionists. These three States of Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri, neither of which would promise a single soldier at first, have now an aggregate of not less than 40,000 in the field for the Union; while of their citizens certainly not more than a third number, and they of doubtful whereabouts and doubtful existence, are in arms against it. After a somewhat bloody struggle of months, winter closes on the Union people of Western Virginia, leaving them masters of their own country.

An insurgent force of about fifteen hundred, for months domniating the narrow peninsular region constituting the counties of Accomac and Northampton, and known as the Eastern shore of Virginia, together with some continguous parts of Maryland, have laid down their arms, and the people there have renewed their allegiance to, and accepted the protection of the old flag. This leaves no armed insurrection north of the Potomac or east of the Chesapeake.

Also we have obtained a footing at each of the isolated points on the Southern coast of Hatteras, Port Royal, Tybee Island, near Savannah, and Ship Island. And we likewise have some general accounts of popular movements in behalf of the Union in North Carolina and Tennessee. These things demonstrate that the course of the Union is advancing steadily Southward.

Since your last adjournment Lieut.-Gen. SCOTT has retired from the head of the army. During his long life the nation has not been unmindful of his merit. Yet, on calling to mind how faithfully, ably and brilliantly he has served the country from a time far back in our history, when few of the now living had been born, and thenceforward continually. I cannot but think taat we are still his debtor. I submit, therefore, for your consideration what further mark of recognition is due to him and ourselves as a grateful people.

With the retirement of Gen. SCOTT came the Executive duty of appointing in his stead a General-in-Chief of the army. It is a fortunate circumstance, that neither in Council nor country, was there, so far as I know, any difference of opinion as to the proper person to be selected.

The retiring Chief repeatedly expressed his judgment in favor of Gen. MCCLELLAN for the position, and in this the nation seemed to give a unanimous concurrence. The designation of Gen. MCCLELLAN is, therefore, in a considerable degree, the selection of the country as well as of the Executive, and hence there is better reason to hope there will be given him the confidence and cordial support thus by fair implication promised, and without which he cannot with so full efficiency serve the country.

It has been said that one bad General is better than two good ones, and the saying is true if taken to mean no more than that an army s better directed by a single mind. though inferior, than by two superior ones at variance and cross purposes. And the same is true in all joint operations wherein those engaged can have none but a common end in view and can differ only as to the choice of means. In a storm at sea no one can wish the ship to sink, and yet not unfrequently all go down together because too many will direct and no single mind can be allowed to control. It continues to develope that the insurrection is largely, if not exclusively, a war upon the first principle of popular Government—the rights of the people. Conclusive evidence of this is found in the most grave and maturely-considered public documents, as well as in the general tone of the insurgents. In these documents we find the abridgement of the existing right of suffrage and the denial to the people of all right to participate in the selection of public officers, except the legislative body, advocated with labored arguments to prove that large control of the Government in the people is the source of all political evil. Monarchy, itself, is sometimes hinted at as a possible refuge from the power of the people. In my present position I could scarcely be justified were I to omit raising a warning voice against this approach of returning despotism.

It is not needed nor fitting here that a general argument should be made in favor of popular institutions, but there is one point, with its connections, not so hackneyed as most others, to which I ask a brief attention. It is the effort to place capital on an equal footing with, if not above, labor, in the structure of Government. It is assumed that labor is available only in connection with capital, that nobody labors unless somebody else owning capital somehow by the use of it induces him to labor. This assumed, it is next considered whether it is best that capital shall hire laborers, and thus induce them to work by their own consent, or buy them and drive them to it without their consent. Having proceeded so far, it is naturally concluded that all laborers are either hired laborers or what we call slaves; and further, it is assumed that whoever is once a hired laborer is fixed in that condition for life. Now, there is no such relation between capital and labor as assumed, nor is there any such thing as a free man being fixed for life in the condition of a hired laborer. Both of these assumptions are false, and all inferences from them are groundless. Labor is prior to, and independent of, capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital and deserves much the higher consideration. Capital has its rights, which are as worthy of protection as any other rights. Nor is it denied that there is and probably always will be a relation between labor and capital producing mutual benefits. The error is in assuming that the whole labor of community exists within that relation. A few men own capital, and that few avoid labor themselves, and with their capital hire, or buy another few to labor for them A large majority belong to neither class, neither work for others, nor have others working for them. In most of the Southern States a majority of the whole people of all colors are neither slaves nor masters. while in the Northern a large majority are neither hirers nor hired. Men with their families, wives, sons and daughters work for themselves on their farms, in their houses and in their shops, taking the whole product to themselves and asking no favors of capital on the one hand, nor of hirers laborers or slaves on the other. It is not forgotten that a considerable number of persons mingle their own labor with capital, that is they labor with their own hands, and also buy or hire others to labor for them; but this is only a mixed and not a distinct class. No principle stated is disturbed by the existence of this mixed class.

Again, as has already been said, there is not of necessity any such thing as the free hired laborer being fixed for that condition for life. Many independent men everywhere in these States a few years back in their lives were hired laborers. The prudent, penniless beggar in the world labors for wages awhile, saves a surplus with which to buy tools or land for himself, then labors on his own account another while, and at length hires another new beginner to help him. This is the just and generous and prosperous system which opens the way to all, gives hope to all, and consequent energy and progress, and improvement of the condition of all. No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up on from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch ought which they have not honestly earned. Let them beware of surrendering a political power which they already possess, and which, if surrendered, will surely be used to close the door of advancement against such as they, and to fix new disabilities and burdens upon them till all of liberty shall be lost.

From the first taking of our National census to the last, are seventy years, and we find our population at the end of the period, eight times as great as it was at the beginning. The increase of those other things which men deem desirable has been even greater. We thus have, at one view, what the popular principle applied to Government through the machinery of the States and the Union, has produced in a given time, and also what, if firmly maintained, it promises for the future. There are already among us those who, if the Union be preserved, will live to see it contain 250,000,000. The struggle of to-day is not altogether for to-day, It is for a vast future also.

With a firm reliance on Providence, all the more firm and earnest, let us proceed in the great task which events have devolved upon us.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3, 1861.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

SIR: The report from this Department, under date of 4th July last, exhibited the condition of the navy, the administrative measures taken to augment its efficiency, and the general course of its operations up to the commencement of the late special session of Congress. The enlarged estimates of expenditure for the naval service then submitted, contemplated, especially, three different lines of naval operations, upon an extended scale, as demanded by the situation of the country. These were—

1. The closing of all the insurgent ports along a coast line of nearly three thousand miles, in the form and under the exacting regulations of an international blockade, including the naval occupation and defence of the Potomac River, from its mouth to the Federal Capital, as the boundary line between Maryland and Virginia, and also the main commercial avenue to the principal base of our military operations.

2. The organization of combined naval and military expeditions to operate in force against various points of the Southern coast, rendering efficient naval coöperation with the position and movements of such expeditions when landed, and including also all needful naval aid to the army in cutting off intercommunication with the rebels, and in its operations on the Mississippi and its tributaries; and

3. The active pursuit of the piratical cruisers which might escape the vigilance of the blockading force, and put to sea from the rebel ports.

These were duties which the navy was called upon at the same time to prepare for and perform, and they constituted a triple task more arduous, it is believed, in some respects, than has before been demanded from the maritime power of any Government. I proceed to report briefly the efforts which have been made for its accomplishment.

The limited number of ships and men at command when the proclamation announcing the blockade of the ports of the insurgent States was issued, and the inadequate means provided by the last Congress for the emergency, devolved upon the Department the necessity for calling into immediate service not only all the naval forces but vessels from the commercial marine. Purchases were accordingly made and charters hastily executed for the exigency, and orders peremptorily issued to forthwith equip and prepare for service the public vessels that were dismantled and in ordinary at the several yards. The force thus hastily gathered was placed along our coast, and divided into two squadrons—one of which, designated as the Atlantic blockading squadron, had for its field of operation the whole coast extending from the eastern-most line of Virginia to Cape Florida, and was under the command of Flag-officer SILAS H. STRINGHAM. The other, or Gulf Squadron, operating from Cape Florida westward to the Rio Grande, was commanded by Flag-officer WILLIAM MERVINE. These officers repaired to their stations, and were reinforced from time to time by the arrival of such vessels as were dispatched to their commands, and under their supervision and direction all the ports upon their stations were subjected to a blockade as rigid and effective as the peculiar nature of our maritime frontier—which has, through a large portion of its entire extent, a double coast, inner and outer—would admit. Our principal naval vessels are not, from their great draft of water, adapted to blockade service on our shallow coast, which has been guarded with extreme difficulty. The ports of North Carolina especially, situated within the interior shallow waters of their sounds and inlets, afforded peculiar facilities to a class of small vessels, aided by fraudulent papers and foreign flags, to elude the vigilance of the sentinel ships whose special duty it was to interdict commerce with the insurgents.

THE POTOMAC FLOTILLA.

It became necessary, at an early period, to place a flotilla on the Lower Potomac. A variety of circumstances combined to render this one of the most embarrassing duties on the whole insurgent frontier, and it was early foreseen by the Department that, without the active coöperation of the army, it would be impossible to prevent the navigation of the river from being obstructed by batteries on the Virginia side. For several months, however, the navy, without aid, succeeded, more effectually than could have been expected, in keeping the river open for commercial purposes, and restricting, to a great extent, communication between the opposite shores. In the heroic discharge of this duty, the first commander of the flotilla lost his life; but the navy continued to capture every rebel vessel which showed itself on the Potomac, and to give security and protection to the commerce of loyal citizens, until the close of October, when the insurgents erected batteries at sundry points on the Virginia shore, thereby rendering passage on the river dangerous.

THE SQUADRONS.

The duty of guarding the coast, and enforcing the blockade, has been one of great labor, as well as ceaseless vigilance and responsibility. With the steadily increasing force that added to the squadrons, the efforts of the insurgents to elude our ships were also increased, in order to supply the pressing necessities that afflicted the whole of the rebel States. The duties imposed upon the flag officers became correspondingly arduous, and eventually more extensive in their operation and detail than could be well executed by one commander. While the subject of a division of the squadrons was under consideration, Flag Officer STRINGHAM, unaware of the fact, made a proposition to relinquish his command, which was acceded to, and two squadrons were organized on the Atlantic coast. Capt. LOUIS M. GOLDSBOROUGH was appointed to guard the shores of Virginia and North Carolina, and raised his flag on the *Minnesota* on the 23d of September. The residue of the southern Atlantic coast, commencing at the line which separates the two Carolinas and extending to Cape Florida, was intrusted to Capt. SAMUEL F. DU PONT, whose flag was raised on the *Wabash*, on the 29th of October.

Flag Officer WILLIAM MERVINE was relieved from the command of the Gulf squadron in September by Capt. WILLIAM W. MCKEAN. The necessity of dividing this squadron, as well as that on the Atlantic seaboard, in order that the coast should be more rigidly guarded, was felt; but the measure was postponed until a larger force could be sent around the peninsula. A vigilant watch has been maintained at the passes of the Mississippi, by which the commerce of New-Orleans has been successfully interdicted.

The task of blockading the coast is unattractive and devoid of adventure. Those who have engaged in this rebellion have neither commerce nor a navy to reward or stimulate to exertion.

SINKING VESSELS.

One method of blockading the ports of the insurgent States, and interdicting communication as well as to prevent the egress of privateers which sought to depredate on our commerce, has been that of sinking in the channels vessels laden with stone. The first movement in this direction was on the North Carolina coast, where there are numerous inlets to Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds, and other interior waters, which afforded facilities for eluding the blockade, and also to the privateers. For this purpose a class of small vessels were purchased in Baltimore, some of which have been placed in Ocracoke inlet.

Another and larger description of vessels were bought in the eastern market, most of them such as were formerly employed in the whale fisheries These were sent to obstruct the channels of Charleston harbor and the Savannah River; and this, if effectually done, will prove the most economical and satisfactory method of interdicting commerce at those points.

VESSELS CAPTURED.

Since the institution of the blockade one hundred and fifty-three vessels have been captured sailing under various flags, most of which were attempting to violate the blockade. With few exceptions, these vessels were in such condition, when seized, as to authorise their being sent at once to the courts for adjudication and condemnation as prizes. Appended to this report is a list of the vessels which have been captured.

SEIZURE OF SOUTHERN PORTS.

A seizure of some of the important ports on the coast commanded the early and earnest attention of this department. It was found that naval stations and harbors of refuge during the tempestuous seasons would be indispensable if hostilities were to be continued, and the stations thus secured could also be made the points of offensive military operations. Shortly after the attention of the Government was drawn to this subject, a Board was convened under the auspices of the Navy Department, consisting of Capt. SAMUEL F. DU PONT and CHARLES H. DAVIS, of the navy; Major JOHN G. BARNARD, of the army; and Prof. ALEXANDER DALLAS BACHE, of the coast survey; to whom a thorough investigation of the coast and harbors, their access and defences, was committed. Several elaborate and valuable reports of great interest, exhibiting in minute detail the position, advantages and topographical peculiarities of almost every eligible point on the coast were the results of this important commission.

In view of the data thus presented, two combined naval and military expeditions have already been organized and put in action. Such coöperation and concert of action between the two arms of the public service were indispensable; for, though the navy alone might assail and capture batteries on some positions, it was not within its province or power to retain or garrison them. The operations on shore manifestly pertain to the army, and, on each occasion as soon as the military forces were ready for these expeditions, the navy was fully prepared and eager for immediate action.

After some delays, an expedition to Hatteras Inlet, on the coast of North Carolina, where piratical depredations had become extremely annoying, was undertaken. Flag-Officer STRINGHAM commanded in person the naval forces on this occasion, and Major-Gen. BUTLER had command of the small military detachment of about eight hundred men which coöperated with the navy. The expedition was eminently successful in the attack upon and capture of Forts Hatteras and Clark. The entire garrison, under the command of SAMUEL BARRON, recently and for nearly fifty years an officer of the navy, surrendered after sustaining great loss, while not a life was sacrificed nor an individual of the Union forces wounded. Annexed is the report of Flag-officer STRINGHAM of this achievement, with the letter of approval and congratulation of this Department. The military force was inadequate to follow up this brilliant victory by securing a position upon the main land, and there propitiating and protecting the loyal feeling which had begun to develop itself in North Carolina.

It was intended that the success at Hatteras should have been followed in September by a more formidable expedition, and the seizure of a more important position further South. Owing to various causes, independent of the Navy Department or the condition of the navy, this movement was unavoidably postponed until the 29th of October, when a fleet of forty-eight sail, including transports, a larger squadron than ever before assembled under our flag, left Hampton Roads. Capt. SAMUEL F. DUPONT, then recently appointed Flag-officer, an officer of great skill and experience, and possessing the entire confidence of the Department, was selected to command this expedition. In addition to his general professional ability, he had, through careful study and investigation, as Chairman of the Board which had been ordered in June, special qualification and thorough preparation for the highly important and responsible position assigned to him. Informed of the policy and views of the Government in regard to the expedition, prompt to execute its wishes, and having made himself familiar with every eligible port on the Southern Atlantic coast, he, as commander of the expedition, was intrusted with the selection, within prescribed limits, of the place where the first assault should be made.

After encountering the severest storm that has visited the coast during the present season, which partially dispersed the squadron, causing the wreck of several of the transports, and compelling even some of the smaller vessels of the navy to put back, the fleet, by the merciful interposition of Providence, was preserved, and appeared before Port Royal, one of the best, though neglected harbors on our Southern coast, on the 5th day of November. So soon as the channel could be buoyed out, and other preliminary measures accomplished, assaults were made on the well-built and thoroughly-armed forts, Beauregard and Walker. Consummate naval strategic skill, and the most admirable gunnery, were exhibited in the attack, which was of such tremendous effect that Gen. DRAYTON and the rebel army surrendered their strongholds, fled the coast with precipitation, leaving their property, armament and papers, while our naval forces took, and still hold, quiet possession of one of the finest harbors on the Atlantic seaboard. I append Flag-officer DUPONT'S report of this brilliant achievement, and the letter of this Department congratulating him, his officers and men, on their bravery, skill and success.

A demonstration was ordered by Flag-officer DUPONT on Tybee Island, at the mouth of the Savannah River, which resulted in the capture of that island and the strong Martello tower and battery that virtually commands Fort Pulaski. Our naval forces have possession of that island, a part of the South Atlantic squadron is at anchor in the harbor, and the flag of the Union is again unfurled in Georgia. The dispatch of Flag-officer DUPONT, communicating to the Navy Department an account of this transaction, and the additional fact that the rebels themselves have, in anticipation of our action, placed obstructions in the river at Fort Pulaski, is appended to the report.

Without specifying, in detail, the numerous meritorious achievements which have during the year done honor to the naval service, I append dispatches of the commanders, communicating the brave and heroic conduct which has been displayed by our naval officers, sailors and marines, whose intrepidity, courage and loyalty were never more marked than in this rebellion.

THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

A naval force, auxiliary to and connected with the army movements on the Mississippi and its tributaries, has been organized, and is under the command of Flag-officer ANDREW H. FOOTE, who is rendering efficient service in that quarter.

The steamers which have been built or purchased for this service by the War Department are of a formidable character, and manned by a class of superior seamen and Western boatmen, who, in the preliminary skirmishes already, have done good service, and will, I am confident, acquit themselves with credit in the future. Reports are appended, exhibiting some of the operations of this command as auxiliary to the military movements on the Mississippi.

PURSUIT OF PRIVATEERS.

It was natural that apprehensions should prevail in regard to armed cruisers, commissioned expressly by the rebel leaders to depredate upon our commerce. This robbery of merchants and others engaged in peaceful and lawful pursuits by piratical cruisers is not inconsistent with the general conduct of those who have violated law and moral obligations to gratify inordinate ambition. Our extended commerce presented inducements for piratical warfare, yet but few of our misguided countrymen have prostituted themselves to the purposes of plunder, though thereto invited, and these few have been in constant flight to escape the avenging power of our vigilant naval forces. Such of these cruisers as eluded the blockade and capture were soon wrecked, beached or sunk, with the exception of one, the steamer *Sumter*, which, by some fatality, was permitted to pass the *Brooklyn*, then blockading one of the passes of the Mississippi, and, after a brief and feeble chase by the latter, was allowed to proceed on her piratical voyage. An investigation of this whole occurrence was ordered by the Department. Soon the *Niagara* and the *Powhatan*, from the Gulf Squadron, followed in vigorous pursuit—the latter, though long in commission, and with defective boilers and machinery, under her energetic commander, tracking the piratical craft as far as Maraham. The *Keystone State*, *Richmond*, *Iroquois*, and *San Jacinto* were also in search of her at different points and periods. Although a piratical rover, without license from any recognized or acknowledged government, and avowedly engaged in the robbery and plunder of our citizens, I regret to say this vessel has been received, and her wants supplied, against the remonstrance of our consuls, by public authorities, in many foreign ports, where her character was well known.

REBEL EMISSARIES.

Capt. WILKES, in command of the *San Jacinto*, while searching in the West Indies for the *Sumter*, received information that JAMES M. MASON and JOHN SLIDELL, disloyal citizens and leading conspirators, were, with their suite, to embark from Havana in the English steamer *Trent*, on their way to Europe to promote the cause of the insurgents. Cruising in the Bahama channel he intercepted the *Trent* on the 8th of November, and took from her these dangerous men whom he brought to the United States. His vessel having been ordered to refit for service at Charleston, the prisoners were retained on board and conveyed to Fort Warren, where they were committed to the custody of Col DIMMICK, in command of that Fortress.

The prompt and decisive action of Capt. WILKES on this occasion merited and received the emphatic approval of the Department, and if a too generous forbearance was exhibited by him in not capturing the vessel which had these rebel enemies on board, it may in view of the special circumstances, and of its patriotic motives, be excused; but it must by no means be permitted to constitute a precedent hereafter for the treatment of any case of similar infraction of neutral obligations by any foreign vessels engaged in commerce or the carrying trade.

THE NAVAL FORCE AND ITS INCREASE.

This brief review of the principal operations of the navy, under the new and extraordinary demands that were made upon its efficiency, naturally introduces an exposition of the measures adopted in conformity with the legislative policy of Congress to increase its available force. The measures which were adopted by the department, in advance of the special session in July, for augmenting the navy, and the recommendations and suggestions which I had the honor at that time to submit, received the sanction and approval of Congress. Immediate action had been rendered necessary in consequence of events that had been precipitated upon the country, and for which no legislative provision had been made. Only a feeble force of men and vessels, scarcely

ordinary police operations, will be at this time available on the Atlantic coast. In order that the condition of the navy on the 4th of March may be rightly understood, it will be well to state the position and character of each of the vessels at that date. The home squadron consisted of twelve vessels, and of these only four were in northern ports and available for service, viz.:

Name.	Class.	No. of guns.	Where stationed.
Pawnee	Screw sloop	8	At Washingt'n
Crusader	Steamer	8	At New-York.
Mohawk	Steamer	8	At New-York.
Supply	Storeship	6	At New-York.
4 vessels		25	

The remaining vessels of the squadron were stationed as follows:

Vessel.	Class.	No. of guns.	Where stationed.
Colorado	Frigate	50	Pensacola.
St. Louis	Sloop	20	Pensacola.
Brooklyn	Steamer	25	Pensacola.
Wyandotte	Steamer	5	Pensacola.
Macedonian	Sloop	22	Vera Cruz.
Cumberland	Sloop	24	Return from Vera Cruz.
Pocahontas	Steamer	5	
Powhatan	Steamer	11	
9 vessels		163	

The *Powhatan* arrived at New-York on the 11th of March, and sailed early in April for Fort Pickens. The *Pocahontas* reached Hampton Roads on the 12th of March, and the *Cumberland* on the 23d of the same month.

Of vessels on foreign stations, the following have returned in obedience to orders from the department:

FROM MEDITERRANEAN.

Name.	Class.	No. Guns	Date of Arrival.
[illegible]	Steam sloop.	16	July 3
[illegible]	Steam sloop.	15	June 6
[illegible]	Steam sloop.	6	June 15

FROM COAST OF AFRICA.

Name.	Class.	No. of guns.	Date of arrival.
Constellation	Sloop	22	Sept. 28.
Portsmouth	Sloop	22	Sept. 23.
Relief	Steam sloop	6	Sept. 27.
Mystic	Steamer	5	Oct. 7.
Mystic	Steamer	5	Sept. 15.
San Jacinto	Steam sloop	13	Nov. 15.
Relief	Storeship	3	Oct. 12.

FROM COAST OF BRAZIL.

Name.	Class.	No. of guns.	Date of arrival.
Congress	Frigate	50	Aug. 12.
Seminole	Steam sloop	5	July 6.

The following have not yet arrived:

FROM EAST INDIES.

Name.	Class	No. of guns.	Date of arrival.
John Adams	Sloop	20	.....
Hartford	Steam al oop	16	.....
Susquehanna	Steam sloop	6	.....

The following are to remain abroad:

Name.	Class.	No. of guns	Where stationed.
Saratoga	Sloop	18	Coast of Africa.
Fulaski	Steamer	1	Coast of Brazil.
Saginaw	Steamer	8	East Indies.

And to these the vessels on the Pacific coast, the steam-frigate *Niagara*, which was returning from Japan, and four tenders and storeships, and there was a total, as stated in the last report, of 42 vessels, carrying 555 guns, and about 7,600 men, in commission on the 4th of March last.

Without waiting the arrival of vessels from our foreign squadrons, the department early directed such as were dismantled and in ordinary at the different Navy-yards, and which could be made available, to be repaired and put in commission. They are, exclusive of those lost at the Norfolk Navy-yard, embraced in the following table:

Names.	Where.	Ordered to be prepared for service with dispatch.	Put in commission or ready for service and over.	Sailed.
		1861.	1861.	1861.
Frigates.				
Potomac	New-York	April 27	July 30	Sept. 10
St. Lawrence	Philadelphia	April 20	May	June 20
Boston	Portsm th, N.H.	April 17	May 27	June 20
Sloops.				
Savannah	New-York	April 1	June 1	July 10
Jamestown	Philadelphia	April 9	May 18	June 6
Vincennes	Boston	April 9	June 24	July 13
Marion	Portsmouth	April 20	June 30	July 15
Dale	Portsmouth	April 20	June 29	July 17
Preble	Boston	April 20	June 22	July 12
Brig.				
Bainbridge	Boston	April 20	May 1	May 15
Perry	New-York	April 20	.....	May 15
Steamers.				
Roanoke	New-York	April 20	June 20	June 25
Minnesota	Boston	April 20	June 3	June 15
Minnesota	Boston	April 3	May 2	May 8
Wabash	New-York	April 9	April 29	May 30
Pensacola	Washington			
Mississippi	Boston	April 6	May 18	May 23
Water-Witch	Philadelphia	Feb. 14	April 16	April 17

When the vessels now building and purchased, of every class, are armed, equipped, and ready for service the condition of the navy will be as follows:

OLD NAVY.

Number of Vessels	Guns.	Tonnage
6 Ships-of-Line	504	16,094
7 Frigates	360	12,104
17 Sloops	342	16,031
2 Brigs	12	539
3 Store-ships	7	342
4 Receiving ships, &c.	106	6,340
6 Screw frigates	222	21,460
6 First-class screw-sloops	108	11,953
4 First class side-wheel steam sloops	46	8,003
5 Second-class screw-sloops	45	7,593
9 Third-class screw-sloops	28	3,405
4 Third-class side-wheel steamers	8	1,808
3 Steam tenders	4	599
76	1,783	105,371

PURCHASED VESSELS.

	Guns.	Tons.
26 Side-wheel steamers	166	26,680
43 Screw steamers	175	20,403
13 Ships	52	9,998
24 Schooners	49	5,324
13 Barks	78	8,432
2 Brigs	4	460
126	518	71,297

VESSELS CONSTRUCTED.

	Guns.	Tons.
14 Screw sloops	98	16,787
28 Gunboats	92	11,861
12 Side-wheel steamers	48	8,400
2 Iron-clad steamers	18	4,600
56	256	41,448

Making a total of 264 vessels, 2,557 guns, and 218,016 tons. The aggregate number of seamen in the service on the 4th of March last was 7,600. The number is now not less than 22,000.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW VESSELS.

Most of the public armed vessels being of such size and draught of water that they could render only imperfect blockading service, immediate measures were taken by the Department to carry into effect the policy of the Government, in advance of the special session of Congress, by contracting for the construction of twenty-three steamers, which should be of light draught, but heavy armament. Congress, at the regular session, had authorized the building of seven screw steamers, and as there were four yards, in each of which two might be built, the Department, in the existing emergency, and in anticipation of the action of Congress when it should convene, directed the construction of eight, dividing them into two classes of about one thousand and fourteen hundred tons, respectively. At the special session, Congress not only sanctioned the action of the Department in the construction of these thirty-one steamers, but it authorized the further construction of twelve side-wheel steamers of light draught, and of six of larger capacity, to be modeled and built specially for speed. Many of those first ordered are already in commission, and the others are in rapid progress towards completion. If, with those above enumerated, we include three iron-clad, or armor steamers, which are being built from the money appropriated for that purpose at the special session, there will be under these several arrangements an addition, when they they are completed, of fifty-two new steamers, peculiarly adapted to the required blockade or coast-guard duty, added to the navy. No sailing vessels have been ordered to be built, for steam, as well as heavy ordnance, has become an indispensable element of the most efficient naval power.

PURCHASE OF VESSELS.

The public vessels and the public yards, in their capacity of construction and repair, were, however, totally inadequate to the demands that are now pressing on this branch of the Government, and the Department was compelled to resort to the commercial marine to make good the deficiency. Vessels of every class and description were promptly tendered by selling and their agents, who, in many instances, became dissatisfied when their offers were not accepted.

The new necessity of the Government, involving a large expenditure, and the purchase of suitable vessels, imposed an important responsibility; and the task of making suitable arrangements to insure the prompt and systematic purchase, on the best and most reasonable terms for the Government, of a large number of vessels most suitable for its use, was attended by peculiar difficulties, and received mature consideration. The purchase might be made directly by the Department, or by boards of officers under its control at the principal ports were the vessels were to be bought, and especially at the great central point of supply for such a demand, the port of New-York.

But to both these methods of procedure the briefest trial disclosed serious objections. It was manifest from the first that the department, charged suddenly with the organization and superintendence of new and arduous naval operations on a large scale, in addition to its current business, could not possibly itself devote to the numerous details of each case of purchase the time and attention needful fully to protect the interests of the Government. It was equally clear that boards of officers, acting in a mere mercantile capacity, new to them, and for which they had neither been practically trained nor professionally commissioned, would be subjected to great embarrassment and disadvantage in their dealings with sellers of ships and professional ship-brokers, in a market suddenly pressed by a hasty and peremptory demand. Yet the department could rely, and it did rely, with the fullest confidence upon the professional judgment and ability of its ordnance officers, naval constructors and engineers, all acting under the responsibility of their commissions, to investigate and determine the whole question of the adaptation, in all respects, of each ship offered, and of its capacity to be by alteration fully adapted to perform the particular service required by the Government. This work, with the corresponding authority of selection and rejection of all vessels, was therefore exclusively committed to boards consisting each of an experienced naval constructor and engineer and an ordnance officer, convened and stationed for the purpose at New-York, and the other principal cities. The mere mercantile part of the business—the making of the best bargains possible for the Government in each case, with the care of averting all intervention of third parties, which might embarrass the attainment of that result—was considered by the Government to be placed most properly in the hands of a mercantile agency of a high and established character for integrity, experience and capacity. Obvious reasons, including the consideration that it is individual responsibility which is always felt most keenly, and that several agents, all acting separately for the Government at the same places, would necessarily compete with each other to its disadvantage in the market, indicated that this agency should be tendered to a single properly qualified individual, upon the distinct understanding that he should devote his whole time, attention and ability to the work; that he should in no case make any charge against the Government for his service; that he should deal always directly and exclusively with the owners of the vessels purchased, thus permitting no brokerage fees or agents' commissions between himself and the owners; and that, finally, his own commission, payable always by the seller, should in no case exceed the regular mercantile per centage fixed by the Chamber of Commerce of New-York, and established by the custom of merchants in that City as the rightful and legal rate of remuneration for such

The agent thus selected was a merchant, who had been connected with one of the most successful and extensive commercial firms in this country—a gentleman of great business capacity, and of the most scrupulous and unquestioned integrity. Relinquishing all private engagements, and withdrawing from all business connections of every description, this gentleman has devoted his whole time and energies with untiring fidelity to the service of the department and the country.

By the system thus adopted the very best vessels in the commercial marine have been secured for the naval service at moderate rates, and to the great advantage of the Government. The course pursued in these purchases has extemporized a navy at less cost to the Government, it is believed, than that required for the construction of the same or equally serviceable vessels; and a question which, at the commencement, was one of embarrassment and difficulty, has been disposed of, and in no particular has the country been better served.

Subjoined is a statement from the purchasing agent at New-York, with a schedule giving the name, tonnage, price demanded, and cost actually paid of every vessel that has been bought by him, and also of all added to the navy since the change of administration in March last. There is abundant reason to congratulate ourselves that, on such a demand, in such a crisis, we were enabled to make so speedy and so large an acquisition to the naval service, and on terms so economical to the Government.

The expenditure in fitting for sea service the vessels at the different navy yards, and repairing and equipping those returning from our foreign squadrons, has been large. Eleven thousand mechanics and laborers have been in the daily employ of the Government at the different navy-yards in building and preparing vessels, and equipping and arming them for service; but this large force has been unable to dispatch the work with the rapidity demanded, and the department has been compelled in consequence to resort to private ship-yards and outside labor.

ARMORED SHIPS.

To carry into effect the provisions of the Act approved Aug. 3, 1861, providing for the construction of one or more armored ships and floating batteries, I appointed Commodores JOSEPH SMITH and HIRAM PAULDING and Capt. CHARLES H. DAVIS, skillful and experienced naval officers, to investigate the plans and specifications that might be submitted. The subject of iron armature for ships is one of great general interest, not only to the navy and country, but is engaging the attention of the maritime Powers of the world. Under the appropriation made by Congress, the Department, on the favorable report of the Board, has contracted for the construction of three iron-clad ships of different models, the aggregate cost of which will be within the limits of the appropriation. The difficulty of combining the two qualities of light draught and iron armor, both of which are wanted for service on our coast, could not be entirely overcome; but the Board, in this new branch of naval architecture, has, I think, displayed great practical wisdom, and I refer to their very full and able report, which is appended, for a more explicit and detailed exhibit of their inquiries and conclusions.

STEVENS' BATTERY.

In pursuance of the joint resolution of Congress approved June 24, 1861, authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to appoint a Board to examine the iron steam battery now building at Hoboken, N. J., and ascertain what will be the cost of completing the same, how soon it can be completed, and the expediency thereof, I appointed Commodores Silas H. Stringham and William Inman, Capt. T. A. Dornin, Chief-Engineer A. C. Stimers and Joseph Henry, Esq., Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, a Commission, and directed them to assemble on the 1st of November to prosecute the examination. The Department has information that the Board convened, but has as yet received no report of its proceedings.

INCREASING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE NAVY.

The efficiency of the navy may unquestionably be largely increased by creating more grades, and I would recommend that the permanent organization of the line officers be as follows:

Flag Officer—to command squadrons.
Commodore, Captain, Commander, Lieutenant Commander, Lieutenant. } To command single ships.
Master.
Passed midshipman.
Midshipman.
Cadet.

The lieutenant commanders, a grade used during the revolution, may be employed as first lieutenants, and in the command of the smaller class of naval vessels.

The present rate of pay may be so apportioned among the different grades that in the aggregate there shall be no increase. Let no officer be advanced to any grade above that of passed midshipman except upon nomination of the President and confirmation by the Senate, after a board of officers shall have pronounced him morally, physically and professionally competent to perform all his duties, both ashore and afloat.

The public service would also be promoted were some limit of age fixed by law for active service. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that line officers be retired after having been forty-five years in the navy, excepting when called into active service by special appointment from the President. A generous pecuniary provision should be made for those who are retired after long and faithful service.

To satisfy the immediate demands of the public service, I recommend that a grade to be designated flag officer be established, and that the President, by selection from the present list of captains and commanders, appoint a number not exceeding seven, who shall each have command, irrespective of seniority or rank, of the squadron to which he may be assigned, and the appointment shall cease when the officer hauls down his flag, unless for distinguished and meritorious conduct in battle as flag officer, he receives, upon recommendation of the President, the thanks of Congress.

RETIRING BOARDS.

Under the provisions of an act authorizing a Naval Retiring Board, entitled "An act providing for the better organization of the military establishment," approved Aug. 3, 1861, a Board has been assembled, and is composed of Commodore George W. Storer, President; Commodore Charles H. Bell, Capt. D. G. Farragut, Surgeons Charles Chase and L. B. Hunter, members, and Philip Hamilton, Esq., Judge Advocate. The Board convened at Brooklyn on the 18th of October last, and is still prosecuting its duties.

A like Board assembled at the same place on the 6th of November, under authorization by the same law, for retiring such marine officers as have become incapable of performing the duties of their office. This Board is composed of Col. John Harris, commandant of the Corps, President; Brevet-Major Jacob Zeilin, Major William B. Slack, Surgeons Solomon Sharp and Charles D. Maxwell, members; and P. T. Woodbury, Esq., Judge Advocate.

Availing themselves of the provisions of the act referred to, several officers of the navy and of the marine corps have, upon their own application, been placed on the list of retired officers, after having been forty years in the service of the United States.

ACTING APPOINTMENTS.

In my report at the commencement of the special session I made mention of the fact that the appointment of acting lieutenants had been conferred on certain gentlemen who had retired from the navy in peaceful times, but who, when the flag was assailed, promptly tendered their services in its defence. It was not within the power of the Department to restore these gentlemen to the line of promotion, but they were placed in the position of, and assigned to duty as acting lieutenants, where they have rendered good service, and proved themselves worthy of their profession whenever they have had an opportunity, either at Hatteras, Port Royal, the Gulf, or elsewhere. There are fifteen of these formerly naval officers who have received the appointment of acting lieutenants. The question of full restoration to these gallant officers, whose names are untarnished, and who have acquitted themselves with honor to their profession, is one of interest to themselves and the country.

In pursuance of the policy indicated by Congress at the extra session, there have been appointed from the commercial marine twenty-five acting volunteer lieutenants. Great care has been exercised in the selection of these officers, who, beside their general reputation for nautical skill, have undergone an examination as to their fitness and qualifications by a Board constituted for that purpose.

There have also been appointed for active service in the navy, independent of officers of the line, four hundred and thirty-three acting masters, and two hundred and nine master's mates. All of these masters have had experience, and nearly every one has been a successful navigator and commander in the merchant service. It was soon found necessary also to require that master's mates should have previous sea experience to qualify them for appointment. In order to prepare the different classes of officers introduced from the mercantile marine for duty in the naval service, schools for gunnery and proper training were established at the Navy-yards, where the appointees have been drilled and disciplined for navy duty. The officers thus selected are, with scarcely an exception, highly meritorious, and would be a credit to any service. Composed as they are of the best material in the best commercial marine on the globe, the spirit and zeal with which they surrender their more peaceful pursuits for the severe and rigid discipline of the navy does honor to their country and themselves.

The assistant paymasters authorized to be appointed by the act of July last have been selected, but the increase of thirty-six was insufficient for the service with the large addition of vessels and crews that have been ordered. I have therefore been compelled to make further appointments of acting assistant paymasters, of whom there are now sixty-one on duty. Their appointments are temporary, for the cruise or the war, and made when there are no unemployed paymasters or assistant paymasters of the regular corps who can be detailed for the duty required.

Acting appointments of engineers and assistant engineers and of assistant surgeons have necessarily been made, in addition to the regular corps, to meet the new and extraordinary demands of the service. There has been an aggregate of nine hundred and ninety-three acting appointments for temporary service made by the Department since the present difficulties commenced. That there may in some instances have been improper selections in consequence of improper recommendations is not improbable, but such are exceptional cases. In some instances men possessing high and excellent traits in other respects have been found addicted to intemperance. This is a disqualification in any officer, and whenever this habit has been detected there has been no hesitation in revoking at once the appointment.

MARINE CORPS.

The report of the commandant of the marine corps is herewith transmitted. Under the provisions of the Act of March 3, 1849, with your approval, orders were given in April or May to enlist the additional non-commissioned officers and privates, to meet the requirements of the service. A large number of able-bodied men of a superior class were very readily obtained, and the increased demand for guards for vessels has rendered necessary an additional increase of five hundred privates, with the necessary non-commissioned officers, which number you have recently authorized to be enlisted. A general return of the corps for October accompanies the report of the commandant, and shows the actual strength of the corps, ashore and afloat, to have been at that time two thousand nine hundred and sixty-four.

In July last, a battalion of 12 officers and 336 men, under Maj. J. G. REYNOLDS, was detailed for duty with the army of the Potomac, under Gen. MCDOWELL. They were in the engagement at Bull Run, and Maj. REYNOLDS' report thereof will be found herewith. A similar battalion of 19 officers and 330 men, under the same officer, was dispatched with the expedition to Port Royal.

NAVAL SCHOOL.

Temporary accommodations for the Naval School have been provided, and the officers and students made comfortable at Newport, where the institution was located upon its removal from Annapolis, until Congress shall take some order on the subject of its future permanent location. Much of the public property appertaining to the school was hastily removed, but many conveniences and much that is essential were left at Annapolis, where they still remain in charge of a person to whose custody they were committed. No legislation was consummated at the extra session towards filling up the school to its full complement in consequence of disagreement between the two houses as to the method of appointment, although each branch expressed an opinion that the deficiency ought to be supplied.

I would respectfully renew the recommendations and suggestions made in my former report, not only that the deficiency should be supplied, but that for a period, at least, the number should be largely increased. In regard to the selection of students, when representatives neglect or refuse to make the nominations, or when a district omits to elect a representative, it is suggested that the President or the Secretary of the Navy be authorized to perform that duty.

The institution is one of too great national importance to be neglected. It is there that the youth are to be educated who in the future must maintain and elevate the character of the navy. I have deemed it important that the accomplished superintendent, whose fidelity to his trust was exhibited under trying circumstances, should be continued in the position he has filled so acceptably until the school shall be again permanently established. But, even under the disadvantage of a temporary location, the country should avail itself of the opportunity to educate, for a period at least, double the number now authorized by law.

EMPLOYMENT OF FUGITIVES.

In the coastwise and blockading duties of the navy it has not been unfrequent that fugitives from insurrectionary places have sought our ships for refuge and protection, and our naval commanders have applied to me for instruction as to the proper disposition which should be made of such refugees. My answer has been that, if insurgents, they should be handed over to the custody of the Government; but if, on the contrary, they were free from any voluntary participation in the rebellion, and sought the shelter and protection of our flag, then they should be cared for and employed in some useful manner, and might be enlisted to serve on our public vessels or in our Navy-yards, receiving wages for their labor. If such employment could not be furnished to all by the navy, they might be referred to the army, and if no employment could be found for them in the public service, they should be allowed to proceed freely and peaceably, without restraint, to seek a livelihood in any loyal portion of the country. This I have considered to be the whole required duty, in the premises, of our naval officers.

NAVAL DEPOT ON THE LAKES.

I have been desired to invite attention to the fact that there is no naval depot on the lakes, notwithstanding the vast amount of tonnage on that frontier, and to state that if there were one, and the ability to arm the merchant marine, our rights on the lakes would be made secure.

CAPTURE OF SLAVER.

There has been but one vessel seized by the African squadron for being engaged in the slave-trade since those mentioned in the last report of this department, the American brig *Triton*, by the United States ship *Constellation*, in the Congo River, on the 20th of May last. She arrived at New-York on the 10th of July, in charge of Midshipman G. A. BORCHERT, and was turned over to the United States Marshal.

THE BUREAUS.

The reports of the chiefs of the respective bureaus attached to this department present the condition of affairs coming under their cognizance in detail. Their labors and responsibilities have been greatly increased by the events that have occurred during the present year, but their duties have been discharged with ability and fidelity to the Government, and that, too, in many respects, under peculiar disadvantages.

The navy-yards at Norfolk and Pensacola, being in the hands of the insurgents, the chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks has not had them under his supervision but for a small portion of the year. His labors, however, have not been diminished or less arduous in consequence.

At no period since its establishment has the Bureau of Construction had so great an amount of labor devolved upon it as during the current year. Not only the design and construction of the large number of vessels ordered to be built, but the repair and equipment of all that have been put in commission, with other attending duties, have come under the cognizance of the chief of that bureau and received his unremitting attention.

The emergency has put in requisition the energy and talent attached to the Ordnance Bureau, which, under many embarrassments, has met the demand upon it, and if, at the commencement of our difficulties, the wants of the Government could not, in all instances, be supplied with the rifled cannon and Dahlgren heavy ordnance, that branch of the service is now furnishing guns and munitions with a rapidity and of a description unsurpassed in any service. The occasion is such as to stimulate into greater activity the inventive faculties and powers of the distinguished Commandant of the Washington Yard, whose services are as valuable to the country, and entitled to as high regard, as those of the most successful Flag-officer who commands a squadron. For more specific details I would refer you to the report of the Ordnance Bureau.

Most of the contracts in the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing were made on the basis of a force not exceeding 8,500 men in actual service, but the greatly increased numbers and the enhanced prices of many articles, have been attended with serious consequences to the contractors, some of whom have been unable to fulfill their engagements. I am happy to say, however, that the vigilant chief of that bureau has permitted none of our squadrons to be deficient in consequence of these failures.

The affairs of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery have been further systematized and improved under the judicious management of its intelligent chief. Like every other branch of the service, the medical staff has been largely increased, not only in the regular corps but by acting appointments.

The action of the several bureaus has been eminently satisfactory under the circumstances of the period. That the organization of the department might be modified, and an improved distribution and classification of the duties that legitimately belong to it be made, I have no doubt. Some of these have been heretofore suggested by my predecessors, and are referred to by me at this time with deference, but with a sincere conviction that more systematic efficiency might thereby be produced.

ESTIMATES AND APPROPRIATIONS.

The amount appropriated at the last regular session of Congress for the naval service for the current year was $12,188,575 66. To this was added at the special session in July last, $30,446,575 91—making for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1862, an aggregate of $43,615,551 77. This sum will not be sufficient, however, for the purpose, and therefore additional appropriations will be necessary. There will be required to pay for vessels purchased, and for necessary alterations incurred in fitting them for naval purposes, the sum of $2,530,000; for the purchase of additional vessels, $2,000,000; and for the construction and completion of twenty iron-clad vessels, $12,000,000—making a total of $16,530,000. This sum is independent of the estimates submitted for the next fiscal year, and being required for current expenses as well as objects of immediate importance, it is desirable should receive early attention from Congress.

The estimates submitted by this department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1863, amount to $44,825,665 02, viz:

For the navy proper	$41,096,830 25
For the marine corps	1,105,856 77
For navy yards, hospitals, magazines, and miscellaneous objects	2,423,478 00

The reports of the chiefs of the bureaus and the commandant of the marine corps, with their accompanying estimates, exhibit in detail the objects for which the appropriations are required. I would also refer to these reports as containing information and suggestions in regard to matters pertaining to the several departments of the naval service.

CONCLUSION.

In concluding this report, it gives me pleasure to acknowledge the important aid I have received in the administration of the Department from the zealous and very efficient coöperation of the Assistant Secretary and the clerical force of the Department proper, and from the Chiefs of the several Bureaus, and those performing public duty under their immediate superintendence and direction.

To the patriotic officers of the navy, and the brave men who, in various scenes of naval action, have served under them, the Department and the Government justly owe an acknowledgment even more earnest and emphatic. Courage, ability, unfaltering fidelity and devotion to the cause of their country, have been the general and noble characteristics of their conduct in the arduous and important service with which they have been intrusted. I state with all confidence that in their hands the historic renown of the American navy has been elevated and augmented. In this convulsive crisis of our country the duties of this Department have been new and heavy, and its responsibilities great. I have met them all with entire honesty of purpose, and have labored assiduously and faithfully to discharge them. The result of my labors I respectfully submit to you, and through you to the judgment of Congress and the country.

GIDEON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy.

TO THE PRESIDENT.

SYNOPSIS OF THE REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

It appears that the whole number of post-offices in the United States on the 30th of June, 1861, was 28,586; and that the entire number of cases acted upon during the same period was 10,638, including appointments made by the President of the United States. The whole number of appointments made by the Postmaster-General, 9,235, and the number by the President during the same period, 337.

The aggregate earnings of the different Transatlantic steamship lines during the year ending June 30, 1861, were $392,887 63.

The expenditures of the Department in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1861, amounted to $13,606,759 11,

The expenditures were $14,874,772 89, showing a decrease in 1861 of $1,268,013 78.

The gross revenue for the year 1861, including receipts from letter carriers, and from foreign postages, amounted to $8,349,296 40.

The estimated deficiency of means for 1861, as presented in the annual report from this Department Dec. 3, 1859, was $5,988,424 04. Deducting the actual deficiency, $4,651,966 98, and there is an excess of estimated deficiency over actual deficiency of $1,436,457 06.

The revenue from all sources during the year 1860, amounted to	$9,218,067 40
The revenue from all sources during the year 1861, amounted to	9,049,296 40
Decrease of revenue for 1861	$168,771 00

The net proceeds from Post-offices in the loyal States for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1860, $3,688,690 56, and in 1861, $3,801,487 08, showing an increase in 1861 of $112,796 52, and in the disloyal States, in 1860, $820,546 57, and in 1861, $677,706 70, showing a decrease in 1861 of $142,839 81.

The decrease in 1861 from the net proceeds of 1860 in all the States appears to be $30,043 29.

Statement of the receipts and expenditures of the disloyal States and amount alleged to be due to contractors; also, to amount actually paid to contractors from July 1, 1860, to May 31, 1861:

Total expenditure	$3,699,150 47
Total gross receipts	1,241,220 05
Excess of expenditures over receipts	$2,457,930 42
Amount alleged to be due to contractors for transportation	3,136,637 12
Amount actually paid for transportation	2,323,061 63
Leaving amount alleged to be due and unpaid	$813,868 49

The estimate of the total expenditures for 1863 is somewhat less than those of previous years heretofore submitted. This difference arises from the fact that only partial estimates are made for the cost of postal service in States where it is now suspended.

The appropriations for expenses in 1862 was $5,391,350 63, while the amount estimated to be required from the Treasury for 1863 is $3,145,000.

The whole number of ordinary dead letters received and examined during the year was about 2,550,000.

The number of these letters containing money, which were registered and sent out during the year ending June 30, 1861, was 10,580.

The number of dead letters returned unopened to foreign countries during the fiscal year was 111,147, which, added to the number of domestic letters (103,880) sent out as above, gives the whole number sent out from the dead-letter office for the year, 215,033.

The result of successful investigation in 7,560 cases confirms the past experience of the department, that the failure of a letter to reach its destination is, in the vast majority of instances, the fault alone of the writer or sender. Out of the above 7,560 valuable dead letters, 3,095 were directed to the wrong office; 467 were imperfectly addressed; 612 were directed to transient persons; 257 to parties who had changed their residences; 821 were addressed to fictitious persons or firms; 83 were uncalled for; 10 without any direction; 2,136 were not mailed for want of postage stamps; 79 were missent; and for the failure of postmasters to deliver 133, no satisfactory reason was assigned. The department, therefore, can justly be held responsible for the non-delivery of but 212 of these letters.

Much other valuable data is given on this subject, and it is worthy of remark, that out of 76,769 letters, before alluded to, originating in the loyal States, and addressed to residents of disloyal States; 40,000 could not be returned, either because the signature of the writer was incomplete, or because the letter contained no clue to his residence. The experience of the Department shows that a large proportion of domestic letters, written by educated persons, and particularly women, are deficient in one or both of these respects.

In view of these and other facts, the Postmaster-General suggests that valuable dead letters, when returned to their owners, should be charged with treble the ordinary rate of postage, comprising one rate for return transportation to the dead letter office, one rate for registration there, and one rate for return transportation to the writers or owners.

A treaty with Mexico has been concluded, awaiting the ratification by Mexico, establishing a common international rate of twenty-five cents on letters, with other useful provisions.

The Postmaster-General has accepted the offer made in 1857 by Great Britain for a reduction of the international rate between the two countries on letters, from twenty-four to twelve cents, which, however, has not yet gone into operation, as it awaits the response of the British office.

The above abstract presents merely a few of the points of the important report.

The Postmaster-General gives at length his reasons for the change of contracts, for disloyalty. Not only was it unsafe, he says, to intrust the transportation of the mails to a person who refused or failed to recognize the sanctity of an oath, but to continue payment of public money to the enemies of the Government and their allies, was to give direct aid and comfort to treason in arms. We could not thus permit this branch of Government to contribute to its own overthrow.

The Postmaster-General also gives his reasons for excluding disloyal publications from the mails. To await the results of slow judicial prosecution was to allow crime to be consummated, with the expectation of subsequent punishment, instead of preventing its accomplishment by prompt and direct interference. Of the cases presented for his action, upon the principles which he names, he has, by order, excluded from the mails twelve of these treasonable publications, of which several had been previously presented by the Grand Jury as incendiary, and hostile to constitutional authority.

While the Postmaster-General did not claim the authority to suppress any newspaper, however disloyal and treasonable its contents, the Department could not be called upon to give them circulation. "It could not and would not interfere with the freedom secured by law, but it could and did obstruct the dissemination of that license which was without the pale of the Constitution and law. The mails established by the United States Government could not, upon any known principles of law or public right, be used for its destruction. As well could the common carrier be legally required to transport a machine designed for the destruction of the vehicle conveying it, or an inn-keeper be compelled to entertain a traveler whom he knew to be intending to commit a robbery in his house.

He finds these views supported by the high authority of the late Chief Justice STORY, of the Supreme Court of the United States, whose opinion he quotes.

REPORT OF THE Commissioner of the General Land Office.

The report of Land Commissioner EDMONDS is exceedingly voluminous—covering altogether 113 foolscap pages. It is brought down to the 30th ult., and shows:

1. Quantity of land surveyed for the year ending 30th of June, 1861, the quarter ending 30th of September, 1861, the quantity surveyed prior thereto, and yet unoffered; with the aggregate quantity surveyed and unoffered on the 30th of September, 1861.

2. The aggregate at that date subject to private entry, together with,

3. Aggregate of surveyed lands offered and unoffered on the 30th of September, 1861.

4. Cash sales of bounty lands, swamps and railroads.

5. Comment on result.

6. Surveys in new Territories of Dacotah, Colorado, Nevada, California, Oregon, Washington, New-Mexico, Utah, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Missouri, Illinois, Louisiana and Florida.

7. Foreign titles.

8. Preëmptions, communicating the principle that would govern where preëmptors enter the military service of the United States.

9. Graduation with the ruling in regard to this class of purchasers who engage in the war for the Union.

10. Military Bounty Land claims, Revolutionary, war of 1812 with Great Britain, war of 1847 with Mexico, and General Bounty Land claims under laws of 1850, 1852, 1855.

11. Swamp Grants.

12. Railroad Approvals.

13. Mineral interests of the United States in the public domain.

14. Eastern Boundary of California.

15. Boundary between the Territories of the United States and Texas.

17. Reference to general administrative details.

DETAILS OF LANDS SURVEYED.

Under the first head the Commissioner shows that during the year ending 30th June, 1861, there have been returned to this office as surveyed

	Acres.
And for the quarter ending 30th September, 1861, an additional area of	7,972,572.70
Making an aggregate of acres returned surveyed since 30th June, 1860, and not yet offered	919,549.55
To this may be added lands surveyed prior to 1st July, 1860, and not yet offered, the quantity of	8,892,125.25
Making an aggregate area of surveyed, unoffered	48,663,470.00
On hand 30th September, 1861, liable to proclamation, and subject to preëmption prior to the actual offering thereof at public sale	55,555,595.25
The following surveyed lands heretofore offered, in different land States and Territories, which were liable to "private sale," and also to preëmption on 30th September, 1861, being	78,662,785.66
in the aggregate	78,662,785.66
Making a total surveyed, unsold, offered and unoffered on 30th September, 1861, of	134,218,380.91

Since last Annual Report no new Proclamation has been issued for the sale of public lands.

In the year ending 30th June, 1861, there were

	Acres.
disposed of for cash	1,402,580.67
For $384,887 63-100.	
Located with Bounty Land Warrants	2,017,440
Certified under Railroad Grants to Minnesota, Michigan and Louisiana	1,021,493.77
Approved and certified, in same year, as swamp lands	599,125.10
Making an aggregate disposed of during the year ending 30th June, 1861	5,103,662.44
For the quarter ending 30th September, 1861, there were sold (part estimate) for cash	42,400.50
For $40,412 39.	
Located by Bounty Land Warrants (part estimate)	136,500
Approved, in same quarter, to States as swamp lands	6,989.37
Total quantity disposed of	5,289,532.31

For the five quarters, ending 30th September, 1861, aggregate cash receipts, during that period, being $925,299 42.

THE POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES AND THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The operations of the land system, in the disposal of the public lands, have been checked and depressed by the political difficulties of the country, growing out of the hostile attitude assumed towards the United States by the authorities controling in the States in revolt against the Federal authority. Notwithstanding these causes, and the necessary withdrawal for military service of a large number of our citizens from agricultural employment, the general disturbance of trade, and the exciting causes affecting the social system, the energy of our people, and vigor of our institutions appear, in this connection, in the fact that, unaided by public sales of fresh lands, *actual settlement have increased the greater portion, it is believed, of over three millions and a half of acres, which have been sold for cash, or located by warrants, being for actual settlement, adding, by estimate, forty thousand new farms of eighty acres, to the wealth of the Republic.*

PLENTY OF FERTILE LAND LEFT—DACOTAH, COLORADO, and NEVADA.

Under the head of New Territories, the Commissioner gives in detail the record of land surveys and movements in Dacotah, the largest of all the organized Territories, and in Colorado and Nevada. Dacotah, he says, contains 209,217,280 acres of land, and he discourses of it as follows:

The lands of the Territory are reported as being of the most fertile character; the climate healthy.

The returns of the Deputy Surveyors indicate singular richness and uniformity of soil; the bottom lands of the Missouri and other rivers furnishing splendid natural meadows; the prairie, which is high and rolling, being covered with rich pasturage. The Surveyor-General reports that the capacity of the Territory for stock-raising cannot be overestimated.

Colorado, the new Territory at the base of the Rocky Mountains, includes 66,880,000 acres of land. The Surveyor-General reports that the valleys of the Platte and Arkansas, with their mountains, are being cultivated with success. The plains situated in the eastern portion of the Territory are not so suitable for tillage as for grazing purposes.

The new Territory

THE PENINSULAR WAR.

A Bloodless Campaign—A Rich Region Snatched from the Enemy—Flight of the Rebels—Professions of Union Sentiment—Kind Treatment of Prisoners—Incidents, etc.

Special Correspondence of the New-York Times.

IN CAMP, NEAR EASTVILLE, NORTHAMPTON CO., VA., Thursday, Nov. 28, 1861.

Gen. LOCKWOOD has had a brief, bloodless and successful campaign on this Peninsula. His advance guard, consisting of detachments of the Fifth (New-York) Zouaves, Col. WARREN, and of the Twenty-first Indiana Regiment, Col. MCMILLAN, with a section (two pieces) of NIM's Boston Battery, and a hundred cavalry, has proceeded to this place, seventy-seven miles from Newtown, by forced marches. They found the roads frequently obstructed by felled trees and intrenchments constructed at commanding points but nowhere were men in arms met with. The rebels, secessionists have all disbanded, concealing their weapons and accoutrements, most of which have been unearthed by their pursuers. Their leader, Col. BAYLY, has fled across the bay, it is supposed, and most of those whom he has left behind profess themselves good Union men.

The sensible policy of the Government, in dealing with those in arms against it, has been carried out above to the letter. Gen. LOCKWOOD, before the march began, issued a general order, in which it was declared that any soldier interfering with the rights of property in this region would be sent, in irons, to Fort McHenry. A number of men attached to the Twenty-first Indiana Regiment are under arrest for disregarding it. The people of the country, whose produce has wanted a market for some time, are glad to sell us their accumulated stores for solid gold and silver; they had seen very little specie since the war broke out, previous to the arrival of the Union army. Promissory notes for sums large and small—as small, some of them, as six cents—have constituted their only circulating medium. I have conversed with intelligent men of the villages, who confessed that it was the short-sighted policy of the Secessionists here that cut them off from profitable traffic with the North. Before the war, vessels from New-York and New-England were wont to visit this coast, carrying hence cargoes of oysters, corn and sweet potatoes; but for the past six months the secession tendencies of the inhabitants of the Eastern shore have deterred Northerners from trading with them. Communication with Norfolk has been cut off by the blockade, and with Baltimore by the blindness of the disunionists themselves; and so there have been hard times in this part of "Old Virginny." We have changed all that. Let Yankee schooners swarm about these creeks; they may come and go, laden with the peace. [illegible] and field, as of old. The citizens of Maryland and Delaware again may ratify responsive to heavy freights from this region. We have peacefully conquered a peace in the very latitude of Richmond.

A lamentable ignorance of the principles and purposes of the United States Government has prevailed, we find, with all classes here, except perhaps the designing few. Disabused of the idea that our object in coming here is to free the negroes, or incite them to insurrection, and to drive out Southerners from their plantations, and seize their lands and property for our own use, the people begin to take a more sober view of the unreal objects for which they have taken up arms. It was under the illusion that they were called upon "to defend their homes" against the invasion of Northern barbarians that the masses of the South entered into this war. As they come to learn that their firesides and everything pertaining to them are held sacred by us, their calmer judgment will teach them what secession means. The slaves hereabouts have been imposed upon with the most ridiculous stories. They all tell the same tale. They were taught to believe that we were going to *cut off the right arms and legs* of those who were too old to work, and send the rest to Cuba! The Union soldiers, it was stated—and many whites as well as blacks believed it—were men who, having no property of their own, came South to appropriate what they could find here. "Dey said you all was poor and ragged," said one of the "chattels," "but I reckon none of dem wears such good clo'es as you gemmens."

During the entire march through Accomac and Northampton Counties, there was but one collision between citizens and soldiery, and that was arranged so gently that there were no unpleasant consequences. Two men, who confessed that they had been officers in the secession army, levied in these two counties, having soaked themselves in whisky, until they had in a measure benumbed the timidity which had induced them to lay down their arms a our approach, summoned sufficient courage to draw pistols, and point them at some Zouaves whom they met unarmed outside of camp. The result was the arrest of the offenders, who were conveyed before Col. WARREN. The latter confined them for the night, assigning them the most comfortable quarters at his disposal, sent them food from his own table, gave them blankets and a warm fire, visited them himself, taking pains to explain to them the cause that he was fighting for, and the madness and folly of that for which they had taken up arms, gave them a serenade, of which the most prominent feature was "The Star-Spangled Banner," and dismissed them in the morning sober, wiser and better Unionists than they had ever been before. The effect of a stroke like this upon those with whom we are fighting is better than a battle fought and won. And in this spirit the army has marched through the peninsula, molesting no one, treating even those who had been arrayed in arms against us as erring brothers, now fallen into our power, whom we would rather restore to perfect equality in the great family than tread under foot and cast out forever. The effect is already apparent. People who formerly were known as rank Secessionists, now eagerly seek the acquaintance of our officers, invite them to their houses, introduce them to their families—these monsters who, a few weeks ago, they believed were coming to devastate, to pillage and to ruin—and join in singing our national airs and drinking toasts to the Union. Last night I witnessed one of the most exciting scenes that the campaign has presented. Col. WARREN had invited a number of gentlemen—leading men of the county, all hitherto known as bitter Secessionists, and some of them formerly rebel officers—to witness the drill and dress parade of the Fifth Zouaves, and afterwards join him at a soldier's supper. They came at the appointed hour, some of them with equipages that would grace Central Park. The Fifth is encamped in a dense pine forest, near the village of Eastville. A large and level meadow adjoining affords it an admirable parade-ground. Here the battalion was exercised by the Colonel in some of the manœuvres of the line, for the precise performance of which this regiment has gained some little reputation. The parade over, the officers and guests retired to the Colonel's quarters, where, reclining upon pine boughs and red blankets, in a semi-circle around a roaring fire, they did ample justice to a feast very bountifully provided. It was a picture for a painter. Around the central group, composed of officers of various corps, and the civilians, the Zouaves were congregated in their loose red trousers, blue jackets and fez caps, their bronzed faces made ruddy in the broad blaze of the mess fire. Here and there, through the gloom of the forest, you could trace the line of the encampment by the camp fires briskly burning. Snatches of song and shouts of laughter, cheers, the noises of the mules, the horses and the teamsters, and the usual sounds of the camp at the most delightful period of the soldier's day—that between the "retreat" and "taps"—mingled oddly as they echoed among the pines. At length, when sad havoc had been made with the chickens and turkeys and birds, the oysters and sweet potatoes and apple-jack—the staples of the country—which constituted the repast, some of the best singers of the regiment were sent for, and for an hour they entertained the visitors. The *finale* was the "Red, White and Blue" and "The Star-Spangled Banner," in which all joined with an effect which astonished the natives. The latter, like the rest, gave full vent to their enthusiasm. They swung their hats, they lifted their voices, they joined in the choruses, they shouted, they screamed. It was altogether the wildest, the most fervent and the most intensified expression of Union sentiment that I ever heard. After it was over, the Southerners declared that they had an interest in that Star Spangled Banner; that half of it belonged to the South; that it was a shame to divide it; and wound up by proposing and joining in cheers for that flag, for the Fifth, and for the Union. "Tattoo," with "Yankee Doodle" and "Hail Columbia," played with fife and drum, cut short the entertainment, and shortly after the guests had retired, the lights, at "taps" were put out, the men were in their tents, and the camp was silent as the grave.

We know not what will be our future movements. Col. WARREN awaits orders. It is hoped that the Fifth Zouaves will be sent to Beaufort to participate in active operations there, but it is quite likely that it will Winter at Federal Hill, Baltimore, whither the detachment now here will probably return in a day or two. G. C.

INTERESTING FROM CAIRO.

More About the Battle of Belmont—The Original Plan of Gen. Grant, and How it Came to be Changed—Important Results—Troops at Cairo and in the Vicinity—The Mississippi Gunboats, &c.

From Our Own Correspondent.

CAIRO, Tuesday, Nov. 26, 1861.

The engagement of the 7th of November at Belmont, Mo., between a portion of the forces at Cairo, under Gen. U. S. GRANT, and the rebel forces under Gen. POLK, at Columbus, Ky., and Belmont, was fought under peculiar circumstances, and from those peculiar circumstances erroneous impressions have been formed by persons at a distance, which does injustice to Gen. GRANT and his whole command. Gen. GRANT undoubtedly intended to make a general attack on all the rebel forces under Gen. POLK, and would have produced results more satisfactory if his plans could have been carried out.

The plan was, to attack the stronghold at Columbus (twenty miles down the Mississippi River from Cairo,) and Belmont, which is directly across the river, from three different points, and to accomplish that, he ordered a force of about 3,000 men up the Mississippi River, as far as Commerce, Mo., (thirty-five miles from Cairo). From there they marched to Bloomfield, some fifty miles, where JEFF. THOMPSON, with 3,400 men, were known to be encamped, and from which place he retreated, on the approach of the Union troops, toward New-Madrid, Mo., on the Mississippi River, below Columbus. The troops sent to Bloomfield were expected to force THOMPSON to fight or retreat, and then take the New-Madrid road, and so get in the rear of Belmont, and then the demonstration was to be made. The main column was to attack the enemy in front from Cairo, Belmont was to be attacked in the rear by the column from Bloomfield, and Columbus was to be attacked in the rear by forces from Paducah, Ky.

Before the column sent out had arrived at Bloomfield, Gen. GRANT received information from spies and scouts, that a force of 5,000 rebels at Columbus were under marching orders to reinforce some place, and were to leave on Thursday morning, the 7th, whether to reinforce THOMPSON, or whether they were to go to Bowling Green, Ky., he did not know; and to prevent them from *leaving* Columbus at all, he gave them battle at Belmont with all his available force, some 2,800 men. His only object was to *engage* the enemy and keep him from moving, after he found that his plans were frustrated, by the enemy's intended movement, before his Bloomfield column could get in the rear of Belmont. He not only did that, but he whipped the rebels soundly, killing, wounding and taking prisoners near 600 men, and burning and destroying Camp Johnson, (Belmont,) capturing two cannon and seizing a large number of horses. The forces at Paducah and the Bloomfield column did not, of course, reach the scene of the conflict. The rebel force engaged has been variously estimated at from 10,000 to 14,000, besides the forts at Columbus and batteries at Belmont.

The victory of our forces was so complete, that in Memphis, the day after the battle, the public buildings and many private residences were draped in mourning for the dead and wounded, and a large hotel was seized for hospital purposes. Many people commenced moving away from the city, expecting the National troops would march on Memphis.

This Division—the Southeast Missouri—belongs to the Department of the West, and is under the command of Brig.-Gen. U. S. GRANT, whose headquarters are at Cairo, and is composed of the following posts and brigades:

CAIRO—FIRST BRIGADE.

Tenth Illinois—Col. J. D. Morgan.
Eighteenth Illinois—Col. M. R. Lawler.
Twenty-seventh Illinois—Col. N. B. Buford.
Twenty-ninth Illinois—Col. Jas. S. Rearden.
Thirtieth Illinois—Col. Philip B. Fouke.
Thirty-first Illinois—Col. John A. Logan.

There are attached four cavalry companies and two artillery companies, very strong fortifications and heavy guns—Brig.-Gen. JOHN A. MCCLERNAND commanding.

BIRD'S POINT—SECOND BRIGADE.

Eighth Illinois, Col. R. J. Oglesby.
Twenty-second Illinois, Col. Dougherty, (wounded and prisoner at Columbus.)
Tenth Iowa, Col. Purcel.

Attached are two cavalry companies and an artillery company, Col. R. J. Oglesby commanding.

THIRD BRIGADE—(SAME PLACE.)

Eleventh Illinois, Col. W. H. L. Wallace.
Twentieth Illinois, Col. C. C. Marsh.
Second Iowa, Col. Tuttle.

Attached are a cavalry and an artillery company. The place is well fortified with earthworks and siege guns. Col. W. H. L. Wallace, Commander of Brigade; Col. R. J. Oglesby, Commander of Post.

FORT HOLT—FOURTH BRIGADE.

Seventh Illinois, Col. John Cook.
Twenty-eighth Illinois, Col. Johnston.

Attached are two cavalry and two artillery companies. Heavy fortifications, strong enough to repel a large force. Col. John Cook commanding.

CAPE GIRARDEAU—FIFTH BRIGADE.

Tenth Missouri, Col. Plummer.
Seventeenth Illinois, Col. Ross.

Attached are two artillery, two cavalry, and several companies of Missouri State Guards. Well fortified. Col. Plummer commanding.

It may be well to state that Cairo is at the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, Bird's Point opposite in Missouri; Fort Holt opposite in Kentucky, and Cape Girardeau up the Mississippi River forty-five miles from Cairo.

There has been no military movements of any importance, except two small expeditions sent out after JEFF. THOMPSON, without any beneficial results, since the battle at Belmont. There will be probably none until the gunboats at St. Louis and Mound City, now nearly finished, arrive here. They should have been done, according to contract, by the 10th of October.

There are seven of these gunboats nearly finished, four at St. Louis and three at Mound City, Ill., all launched. They are 175 feet long and 50 feet beam, and are built of the most durable timbers. They will be covered with boiler iron, and will carry each ten 8-inch thirty-twos, five on each side; three (in bow) eighty's, and four very heavy guns in stern. With the three small gunboats now in commission, the fleet will consist of ten, beside a very large transport fleet. It is feared the lowness of the water between here and St. Louis may delay the arrival some days, probably weeks. The marines, 500 in number, have arrived from Washington, and there will be no delay in fitting out as soon as they arrive. The armaments, as well as ammunition are here, and when the boats do get here, active operations toward Memphis and New-Orleans may be expected.

Since the battle at Belmont several flags of truce have passed between this place and Columbus for the purpose of conveying the wounded from the different posts, released. An arrangement had been made by Gens. GRANT and POLK whereby the prisoners were to be released by both parties unconditionally. On the part of Gen. GRANT the agreement was carried out in good faith, but after the rebels were returned, the reverend warlike Gen. POLK stated that he had received instructions from the Confederate Secretary of War that no more prisoners were to be released, but that if the Confederates were recognized as belligerents, he would exchange prisoners. The consequence is, the prisoners they took have been sent to Memphis to work on fortifications, while those we took were released according to agreement.

Large numbers of Camp Jackson men, who were on parole, (taken prisoners by Gen. LYON at St. Louis in May last,) have been sent here, exchanged for MULLIGAN'S men, to be passed through our lines. The last batch, fourteen in number, arrived here on Monday last. They were sent eight miles down the river, and in consequence of the unfairness of POLK in regard to our prisoners, were told if found within our lines they would be hung as traitors.

Large bands of land-pirates and robbers infest the section of Kentucky opposite here, but keep far enough away to not be caught by our scouting parties. H. CLAY KING, with fifteen hundred of these fellows, was, last night, at Blandville, about ten miles from here, forcing supplies from the people and committing other heinous crimes. He did not remain long, fearing he might be picked up by a force from Fort Holt. KING was formerly a prominent lawyer of Paducah, and is to this section of Kentucky what JEFF. THOMPSON is to Missouri—a scourge and a curse.

Comfortable Winter quarters are being built at the different posts in this command, and are generally substantial log-houses, with good pine-plank floors. It is not expected that the troops here now will occupy them, but that when the movement is made South, troops further North and from other States will be moved here to take their places.

Nothing has been heard of JEFF. THOMPSON for a week. The Winter coming on, and his ragamuffins being so poorly clad, he has probably gone further South than this section of Missouri. His band are the greatest ruffians in all the rebel army. His last exploit was an attempt to steal a steamboat, hoping it might be a Government boat, loaded with provisions and clothing. He was disappointed, and went away growling, after taking what few provisions and liquor there were on board.

There is nothing new from Columbus, except that the enemy is augmenting his force, fearful of an attack from this place. EGYPT.

NOTES OF THE REBELLION.

AFFAIRS IN MISSOURI.

IMPORTANT ORDERS ISSUED BY GEN. HALLECK.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS, NOV. 25, 1861.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 8.—1. It having been represented that many of the troops in this Department are in want of pay, clothing, blankets, &c., and that this want results from the irregularities and neglect in the appointment of the officers, and the mustering of the troops, or in the making of requisitions on the proper Departments for supplies, inspecting and mustering officers will be immediately sent to the different divisions, brigades, posts and detachments, to apply, as speedily as possible, a remedy for these evils. The officers so detailed will, where no proper musters have been made, muster or remuster the troops so as to cover the full time of their service, and will see that the proper requisitions for supplies be made out and duly presented. The General Commanding is convinced that the present wants of the forces under his command result from the ignorance or culpable neglect of those whose duty it was to have them organized according to law, and properly furnished with arms, clothing and provisions, and he will hereafter punish with serverity every neglect of this kind.

2. Where it is necessary that requisitions for supplies be sent to headquarters, St. Louis, they must be directed to the heads of Department, who, if they require the approval of the General Commanding, will present them for such approval. In case such requisitions are not filled or replied to promptly, the facts will be reported to headquarters, and all official neglect in such matters will be speedily inquired into and punished. Such requisitions should be transmitted by mail, where practicable, and the sending of officers to headquarters for this purpose, without permission, is strictly forbidden.

3. Numerous cases have been brought to the attention of the Commanding General, of alleged seizure and destruction of private property in this Department, showing an outrageous abuse of power, and a violation of the laws of war. To avoid a recurrence of these evils, the following rules will hereafter be observed:

1. No private property will be taken except where necessary for the subsistence or transportation of the troops, or in cases of persons in arms against the United States, or affording aid and assistance to the enemy.

2. Where it becomes necessary to take private property for the former purpose, intelligent and responsible officers will be detailed for that purpose, who will take an accurate account of the property so taken, and give receipts therefor. All such property must be duly returned and accounted for, and the authority for the seizures must be stated in the receipts and returns. Any unauthorized and unnecessary seizure or destruction of private property will be punished with the extreme penalty imposed by the laws of war, which is *death*.

3. The seizure and conversion of the private property of an enemy (where not required for immediate supplies as provided in the foregoing paragraph,) is justifiable only in particular cases, provided for by the laws of the United States, and the general laws of war, and should never be made except by the orders of an officer highest in command, who will be held accountable for the exercise of this power. Great caution should be used in this matter, as much injustice has been done to individuals who are not enemies; and much discredit cast upon our patriotic army by excesses committed by unauthorized persons pretending to act in the name of the United States. All property taken from alleged enemies must be inventoried and duly accounted for.

Any person violating these rules will be immediately arrested and reported to headquarters.

4. In all cases where prisoners taken at other posts or in the field, and sent to St. Louis, they will be accompanied with a written statement of the charges against them, and the evidence on which the arrest was based. Otherwise, prisoners so sent will be released on their arrival here.

5. No person will be hereafter arrested without good and substantial reasons, and officers making arrests without sufficient cause or without authority, will be held to account and punished. And officers sending prisoners to St. Louis without charges, proofs or proper explanations, will be charged with the expenses of their transportation.

By order of Maj.-Gen. HALLECK.
JOHN C. KELTON, Assistant Adjt.-Gen.

NAVIGATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

HEADQUARTERS, ST. LOUIS DISTRICT, ST. LOUIS, MO., Nov. 27th, 1861.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 4.—In obedience to instructions received from the Major-General Commanding the Department of the Missouri, a change is proposed in the commerce of the river. To check communication with the enemy, prevent the conveyance of contraband goods, and avoid the recurrence of assaults upon our steamboats, the entire commerce of the Mississippi river is assumed and will be directed by the military and naval authorities of the United States. Government boats, and no others, will hereafter be employed; but freight and passengers will be conveyed at current rates as heretofore.

Mail agents will take entire charge of the mails, and boats entering these waters will report at the first military post, and stop or proceed under military orders, at the discretion of the military commander. Freight and baggage will be subject to careful inspection. An oath to which no patriot can object and no traitor forget, shall be taken and subscribed to by all adult employes and passengers, except such alien friends as may be excepted by Commanding-Generals. The plans of landing and departure will conform, as near as may be, to the custom of the trade, but all commission and storage business must be transacted with openly avowed and reliable Union men.

The officers of boats and officers of the army, are directed, and those of the navy are requested, to cautiously, but vigorously carry out the purposes and policy of this command.

By order of Brig.-Gen. CURTIS, Com.
N. P. CHIPMMAN, Major & A. A. A. G.

AFFAIRS AT ST. LOUIS.

Correspondence of the Chicago Tribune.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 27, 1861.

An order has been issued that the Fremont Body Guard will soon go into service again. Most of the men are dissatisfied with their officers, and wish to reenlist in other regiments. They believe that they were sworn only for service as "FREMONT'S" Body Guard, and that they were displaced with the order for his removal. Gen. STURGIS went to their quarters and tried to explain matters, and asked all who came to serve under FREMONT and not under Government orders to step forward. Hoping to be disbanded, so as to reorganize, every man stepped to the front, when STURGIS left them, saying they would be arrested if any attempted to leave the service. They then appointed a committee to wait on Gen. HALLECK, explaining their oath. He said, if their statement was true, they should have a chance to reorganize, and thus what threatened to be a serious mutiny is in a fair way to settlement peaceably.

The State troops now mustered in number over 15,000, with plenty of arms and equipments at hand. Maj. SCHOFIELD has assumed command as Brigadier-General.

Gen. CURTIS' proclamation that steamboat business will be taken into the charge of Government officers gives great satisfaction to Union men, and will prevent any more "Platte Valley" affairs.

The reported reappearance of PRICE north of the Osage causes uneasiness for the safety of our troops scattered between Sedalia and Jefferson.

THE SEIZURE OF MESSRS. MASON AND SLIDELL.

OPINION OF GEN. CASS.

The authorship of the following communication is authoratively attributed to Gen. CASS:

To the Editor of the Detroit Free Press:

The London *Times* is notorious for its disingenuousness, dishonesty indeed, upon all questions affecting this country. Its reputation in this respect is so well established, that we are not surprised at an atrocious example of this kind, referred to in the *National Intelligencer* of the 19th inst.

Not long since it seems the following paragraph was published in that London journal:

"'English cruisers on the coast of Africa for the purpose of suppressing the slave-trade were paralyzed by the claim put forward by the United States to resist not only the right of search, but also a right of visit in the case of a vessel which chose to hoist the American flag. This resistance of the Americans caused a principle favorable to piracy to become part of the maritime law of the world. By that law the American marine must now be ruled. The merchant ships which will trade between Europe and the Confederate States have only to hoist an English or a French flag, and the great war steamers of the United States Navy must, in obedience to the law their own Government has in other cases enforced, allow them to pass. Their holds may be full of warlike materials; they may be crammed with the Armstrong guns now being bought up at Liverpool; but if the tri-color is flying at the mizzen, the *Minnesota* cannot fire a shot to bring one of those vessels to at sea, without peril of a war with France.'

"Now, all this is sheer misrepresentation, without a shadow of foundation in truth. A brief retrospect will make all this clear. The British Government claimed the right in time of peace to search our vessels upon the ocean, and made the Slave-trade a pretext for the assertion of this pretension. Our readers will recollect with what high-handed proceedings this claim was enforced, and the great number of vessels which were boarded in the Gulf of Mexico in the Spring of 1857. They will recollect, also, the excitement which prevailed through the country upon that occasion. The national honor, as well as the national feeling, demanded the interposition of the Government, and a firm remonstrance was addressed to the Government of Great Britain, distinctly declaring that no nation in time of peace, had the right to search or visit upon the ocean the vessels of any other Power, and that this country would submit to the exercise of no such right. Orders were at the same time given to our armed cruisers to protect our vessels from any such attempt. Gen. CASS, then Secretary of State, in his letter upon this subject to Lord NAPIER, dated April 10, 1858, thus lays down the doctrine contended for by our Government. The letter is to be found among the Congressional Documents:

"The United States deny the right of the cruisers of any other power whatever, for any purpose whatever, to enter their vessels by force, in times of peace. No such right is recognized by the law of nations. Lord STOWELL said, 'I can find no authority which gives the right of interruption to the navigation of States upon the high seas, except that which the right of war gives to belligerents against neutrals. No nation can exercise a right of visitation and search upon the common and unappropriated parts of the ocean, except upon the belligerent claim.'"

Lord STOWELL, whose authority is here referred to, better known under the name of Sir WILLIAM SCOTT, was the Judge of the British High Court of Admiralty, and the received expounder for the British Government and people of all international questions affecting the navigation of the high seas. The remonstrance of our Government produced its legitimate effect, and in the following month of June this claim to search our vessels in time of peace was formally relinquished by the British Government, and its decision was communicated to the Department of State by a letter from Lord NAPIER, dated in that month, which has also been published among the same documents. We cannot turn to it at this moment, though we speak from a perfect recollection of it; but we have before us a report of a debate in the House of Lords upon this subject on the 17th of June, 1858, and which is conclusive upon this point. In that debate, Lord MALMESBURY, then the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, thus stated his views and the course he had taken. He said "he had no reason to conceal what he had done, since recent events, (alluding to the outrages in the Gulf of Mexico,) He admitted the international law, as laid down by the American Minister for Foreign Affairs, though not, of course, without being fortified by the opinions of the law officers of the Crown." He characterized the dispatch to Lord NAPIER as "a very able paper." Since that time no claim to search our vessels in time of peace has been preferred by the British Government.

As we have shown, this international law, thus claimed by us, and thus admitted by Great Britain, maintained the immunity of the vessels of all nations upon the ocean in time of peace, and the right of the armed cruisers of a belligerent power to board and search the vessels of neutrals, wherever met with. This right of belligerent search has never been denied. Among other authorities in its support it has the opinion of Judge MARSHALL—and there is no higher one—who said "belligerents" have a full and perfect right to capture enemy's goods, contraband of war. To the exercise of that right, the right of search is essential.

The boarding of the *Trent* by Capt. WILKES, to ascertain her true character and what she had on board in violation of the laws of nations, was then, undeniably, a lawful act. The authorities, derived from the most approved writers upon the laws of nations, and which have been published in the journals of the day, maintain the legality of the capture of the rebel Ambassadors and their dispatches, and the example of England in various cases involving the same principle, and which have been similarly quoted, proves her acquiescence in the doctrine, and her practical adhesion to it. UNION.

IMPORTANT TO CAPITALISTS.

The following correspondence possesses a special interest to contractors at the present time, as well as to brokers, bankers and capitalists generally:

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, Nov. 18, 1861.

DEAR SIR: The undersigned have for some time past been affording financial facilities to Government contractors, by buying and lending on the usual Quartermaster-General's bill, with certificate of inspection and receipt of storekeeper attached.

It having become a large branch of our business, and the demand for money by contractors, owing to the delays of the Government in paying the bills, having increased rather than diminished during the past few days, and we, being anxious to be able to continue the facilities we thus far have afforded, desire from you, in order to be able to act to our entire satisfaction, some information on the following points:

In case the goods furnished, receipted for, and inspected, should at a later date, and prior to the payment of the bill, made out in proper form for said goods, prove of an inferior grade than required by the contract (the bills having passed out of the hands and ownership of the original contractor,) would the Government *decline* paying the bill on that ground—namely, that the goods were not up to the required standard?" I reply, No: The bill always represents the goods as approved, and received into store, having the inspector's certificate and the military storekeeper's receipt, and, after being issued from this office, is a *bona fide* evidence of debt on the part of the Government, and, when signed by the contracting party in whose name the bill is made, is as good as any demand Treasury note, (when funds have been sent to this office to pay.)

You request me further to state, if a dispute was to arise, what the difficulties would be in the way of the acknowledgment and payment of these bills. There can be no difficulty in relation to these bills, if signed by the contractor. *Forgery* alone can vitiate them. No power of attorney will allow any party to sign the bills for the contractor, and it is necessary to be careful that the *exact* name of the party, as on the head of the bill, is signed to the receipt. A bill made out to a manufacturing or other company, must have the name of the agent on the heading of the bill, precisely as it is signed to the receipt. I regard these bills, when issued from this office, properly certified and properly signed, as the very best class of securities that a banker can loan money upon; and if the Government do not meet their obligations promptly, (as I hope they will,) and should it be the unfortunate necessity of our contractors to borrow money upon them, I sincerely hope that a reasonable rate of discount shall be made in view of the superiority of the securities. I will add that these bills pass through our books with a critical examination and scrutiny, and, when issued, are sure to be right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. H. CROSSMAN,
Deputy Quartermaster-General U. S. Army.

MESSRS. DREXEL & Co., E. W. CLARKE & Co., and JAY COOKE & Co., Bankers.

HOW GEN. BUTLER TREATS NORTHERN REBELS.

From the Boston Transcript, Nov. 25.

As the sleeping car on the Shore Line was leaving New-York last (Sunday) evening, bearing numerous passengers, including Gen. BUTLER and his Aid, a young gentleman, who had evidently been taking a little too much wine, forced his society upon the General, not knowing with whom he was conversing. The General's Aid was for expelling the saucy individual, but Gen. BUTLER decided to let him have his talk. In the course of the conversation Gen. BUTLER's political course was discussed, and the individual vowed that "as for BUTLER, he had *been a little of everything*;" that at the Charleston Convention "he voted for DOUGLAS," and he couldn't understand "how it was he was run as a Breckinridge candidate for Governor in Massachusetts."

The General replied that, according *to his* memory, BUTLER voted fifty-seven times for JEFF. DAVIS at the Charleston Convention, and had never been a Douglas man. The individual proceeded further to remark that he thought BUALER was a mighty *smart* lawyer, and had heard him often in Boston and Lowell, but that he never knew he was anything of a military man until this rebellion broke out. The General replied that the statement *was all true*, and asked the stranger what he thought of this outrageous war, and whether Virginia had acted wisely in having made herself the tail to South Carolina's kite.

The individual replied, that, consulting her individual interests, Virginia had acted *rashly*, but upon general principles, she *had done right*, and that the South had done right, ending by avowing genuine secesh sentiments. Gen. BUTLER repeated his question, and received the same reply, then, drawing himself back, informed the impertinent individual, in a very calm manner, that his name was "BUTLER, Gen. B. F. BUTLER, and, as the head of the Department of New-England, he arrested him as a traitor and Secessionist, and that he should be sent to Fort Warren in the morning."

The surprise and fright of the half-boozy individual can very well be imagined, and it was some moments before he could realize his situation. The General continued very sternly, "that as a United States officer, he should not allow anyone to talk treasonable sentiments in his presence, but that as he saw he was under the influence of wine, he would order him to his berth, and if in the morning he did not beg his pardon and avow Union sentiments, he should proceed to Fort Warren." The astounded individual crawled into his bunk, but before morning dawned, the fear of again meeting the General, and the idea of "putting up" at Fort Warren instead of the Revere House, was so terrifying, that he skulked away, and probably got off the train at New-London.

A BRAVE WOMAN.

From the St. Louis Christian Advocate.

Mrs. PHELPS resides about a mile and one-half from Springfield, Missouri, and is the wife of Col. JOHN F. PHELPS, of a loyal Missouri regiment. On the afternoon after the battle of Wilson's Creek, it was noised that the rebels had determined to cut out the heart of Gen. LYON, and preserve it as a trophy over the United States Army. Mrs. PHELPS, leaming of this outrage on the slain General, armed herself, as she was accustomed to do for some time in order to preserve her life and the lives of her family from the murderous assaults of the Secessionists. Thus armed, she drove to Mr. PRICE's camp by nightfall, and there, all alone, guarded the body of Gen. LYON. When ordered by the rebels to give up the body, she positively refused, and declared they must cut out her heart before they could get the heart of the General. There, all alone, she stood guard during the whole night, with her arms in readiness to defend her charge, regardless of her own life, thus fearlessly passing the dreary night amidst the associations of the dead, the wounded and the bloodthirsty men who were awaiting an opportunity to obtain the coveted heart of the noble LYON.

After daylight, having made arrangements in reference to her precious charge, she repaired to her horse, and sent a colored servant with a wagon and two horses to bring the remains of Gen. LYON to her residence, in order to inter it in her garden or on the farm, with all the respect in her power toward the commander of the loyal army. But as the wagon had not returned in due time, she drove again to Mr. PRICE's camp, and found her wagon had been seized for the use of the rebel army, and her servant confined in it and gagged. As the horses had been unhitched from the wagon, with her own hands she again hitched them. When resistance was again offered to her course she fearlessly declared she would deal death with her revolvers to anyone who molested her. About the time she had released the servant, and got her precious treasure in the wagon, resistance was again threatened. She then pressed her way to the presence of Gen. PRICE, who, at her pressing instance, ordered her to have the body of the slain General, without further interruption.

Having thus obtained her cherished object, more dear to her than life, she accompanied it to her residence, and there interred it in the best manner she could. And all this was done in the absence of her loyal husband, who, in consequence of his duties as Colonel, could not be present to accompany his noble wife in performing this work of loyalty and humanity.

RELIGIOUS EXERCISES ON BOARD A UNITED STATES VESSEL.

A correspondent on board the United States frigate *Potomac*, off Ship Island, Oct. 22, 1861, writes as follows:

On Wednesday our Captain started a prayer meeting, which is now very regularly held every day. We begin by singing a hymn; a chapter from the Bible is then read, after which some remarks are made by those who desire to participate. Our captain and most of the officers attend, together with the crew. The First Lieutenant and Surgeon are professors of religion, and about twelve of the crew. A Sunday school is also established, which is progressing well. The Lord is with us. More than one of "the men" have declared their determination to turn to the Lord; and we trust that many may learn to follow in the footsteps of the meek and lowly Jesus. We have four hundred men, forty-five marines, fifteen ward-room officers, twelve steerage officers, and four forward officers. Our First Lieutenant has been ordered to take command of the sloop-of-war *Vincennes*.

A rebel steamer came here on Monday, and fired at the steam gunboat *Massachusetts*, which was lying about a mile from us. The *Massachusetts* got under way and gave battle, and chased her into shoal water, giving a liberal supply of shot and shell.

OFF MOBILE, Nov. 4.—Our prayer meeting is still regularly attended, and the same interest manifested by all. Mr. J. J. KANE, who is Master's Mate, is acting as Chaplain, and is earnest and active in his efforts for the spiritual welfare of those on board. Twelve of the crew have manifested a desire to join the Church of the Lord, and we hope soon to be able to chronicle the names of many more.

THE CONTRABANDS.

A letter to the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, dated at Fortress Monroe, Nov. 23, says:

"Several hundred contrabands were to-day supplied with Winter quarters near the Fortress. An immense frame building was erected, and the interior partitioned off in the manner of a steamboat cabin, with rough, white pine berths. Ebony and chocolate colored men and women took possession of these, amid a most terrific clatter. Each man shouldered his bed of straw husks, and marched through the door with the air of a hero, no doubt thanking the Government for having been so careful in providing accommodations.

Upwards of eighteen hundred contrabands are located in the neighborhood of Hampton. They receive rations from the Government, and do work in return. They are as happy, careless and easy as though all their life accustomed to the scenes of the present day. The houses which they occupy are in a miserable condition, and the health of the inmates is said not to be all that could be desired.

THE STONE FLEET.

The New-Bedford *Mercury* gives the following list of vessels which have gone South loaded with stone to blockade certain Southern ports:

	Tonnage.	Tons of Stone.	Masters.
Ship Archer	321	280	William Worth.
Ship L. C. Richmond	341	300	Martin Malloy.
Ship Courier	381	300	S. F. Brayton.
Ship Kensington	357	350	Benj. W. Tilton.
Ship Herald	274	240	A. H. Gifford.
Ship Maria Theresa	330	320	Thos. S. Bailey.
Ship Rebecca Simms	400	425	Jas. M. Willis.
Ship Potomac	356	350	Thos. Brown, 2d.
Bark Leonidas	231	200	Joseph Howland.
Bark South America	606	550	D. P. Chadwick.
Bark Cossack	256	250	John D. Childs.
Bark Fran. Henrietta	407	381	M. Cummisky.
Bark Garland	243	190	Rodney French.
Bark Amazon	318	325	Jotham S. Swift.
Bark Harvest	314	400	W. W. Taylor.
Bark American	329	300	Wm. A. Beard.
Total	5,464	5,221	

EXCHANGING PRISONERS.

The Rochester *Union* publishes the following letter:

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 19, 1861.

REV. W. C. WHITCOMB—*Dear Sir:* Your letter of Oct. 5 is received, and I truly feel for your friends and relatives now prisoners at Richmond. *The policy of the Government has not as yet been settled as to the exchanging of prisoners;* yet she does not for a moment forget her brave sons who have fallen captives while defending her national integrity. What *the future* may bring forth cannot now be told, I trust, however, it may see the speedy union of now dissevered families.

With respect, I remain yours very truly,
THOMAS A. SCOTT,
Acting Secretary of War.

The Demand Treasury Notes.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

It has become so much the fashion of late to decry the issues of the Government Demand Notes, as tending to produce an expansion of the currency—which means a rise of prices of commodities—that any opinion to the contrary is likely to be received with little favor by those who seem to have arrogated the position of oracles upon the subject, and who are, as is usual in such cases, but the promulgators of time-worn dogmas. They say the issues will produce this expansion, but they do not stop to consider how it will; they take the position for granted, without any preliminary inquiry as to the likelihood of its being an error. Now, if Government Demand Notes will produce an expansion, when they are secured by specie to meet the immediate probable demand, and an ulterior security of Loans to meet any demand, what effect would be produced if these notes were not secured either by gold coins or a basis of Loans, like the Treasury Notes, for instance, of Mr. MEMMINGER? Certainly the full extent of the charge against paper currency is that it will expand prices, and if these issues of Mr. MEMMINGER, without any security at all, are limited in their results only to an expansion of prices, certainly a currency that has a full security, in any event, must produce something this side of that result. The oracles upon the subject will declare that the difference is one of degree only, but we declare it is a difference of kind, and that there is no homogenity whatever in the two classes of currency, and that the Government issues of Demand Notes will not produce an undue expansion so long as these issues are kept convertible, and so long as they do not exceed—together with what the Government disburses on other accounts—the Treasury Receipts for Loans and Taxes.

In the comm

that they are not inactive. The fact of their arrest should hasten our naval and military preparations to obtain possession of the city, and relieve them from the grip of the rebel despots.

Camp Inspection and the Sanitary Commission.

The Sanitary Commission, with questionable zeal and unquestionable taste, has been again exporting itself in the columns of the World, as a rival to the Medical Bureau of the Army. For many reasons this ill-advised and eccentric conduct is to be regretted. In view of the prodigious interests at stake in the present crisis, the public will not allow a voluntary organization, to which such cherished objects and ample funds have been intrusted, to misuse power, obstruct discipline, or seek patronage, by stabbing the reputation of so able, energetic, experienced and well-qualified an officer as our Surgeon-General. Facilities for visiting the camps are given for one such ends, and should any department of the service suffer from these *escapades*, justice demands that the offenders be held to answer. No more suicidal course could be chosen by the Sanitary Commission than to let the belief get abroad that in any of its operations private schemes are paramount, and personal ambition supplants the public good.

In the present condition of our newly raised army, the proper duties of the Sanitary Commission are vast and laborious. They are also simple and clearly defined, embracing, as they do, the two objects of inspecting the camps and relieving our suffering soldiers. These functions were voluntarily undertaken, and if neglected they can, by a stroke of the pen, be confided to other hands. The Sanitary Commission, it is superfluous to say, has not acquired the least authority to interfere with the medical officers of the army. Still less is it at liberty to write against them in the newspapers. Much of the information obtained by the inspection of the camps is, of course, confidential; and when any supposed incompetency is discovered in one of the medical officers, the fact ought to be in due course reported. Here the responsibility of the Sanitary Commission ends. The public have the fullest confidence that the Commander-in-Chief and the Administration will do their duty, and exert their legitimate powers to correct all the real evils that may thus be brought to light. Any attempts to bring an outside pressure to bear on such questions, not only involve a breach of confidence, but are an insult to authority, and establish a precedent of the most dangerous character.

Moreover, what the public asks of the Sanitary Commission just now is not so much to find fault with others as to give an account of itself. The inquiry is as to the services this organization is actually rendering to the army. Where an inspector in the employ of the Commission finds a camp badly drained, imperfectly ventilated, deficient in hospital organization, or subject to some other conditions threatening to life or noxious to health, we should be glad to know how he proceeds—what is really accomplished by his representations,—and in what proportion of cases any practical good, any salutary changes are effected by his visit. Facts and practical results are what is looked for. The mere visit, the act of inspection, the suggesting of defects and improvements, are all means to an end, and that end is practical, real improvement. If the Commission is as useful as it claims to be, and as it ought to have been, such reports as are wanted could easily be prepared by competent men. They might contain, with other particulars, the average sickness and mortality before and after the changes inaugurated by the advice of the Inspector, and as some such facts might be published without prejudice to the service, permission could no doubt be had from the proper authorities to lay them from time to time before the contributors to the funds of the Sanitary Commission.

But these public reports should also contain some particulars as to the relief given to our sick and suffering soldiers. In this second department of their legitimate work, the Commission act as the agents of the Ladies' Relief Associations, and of other patriotic societies established in various parts of the country, for supplying medicines and comforts to the army. Special pains have been taken, moreover, by the Commission to prevent contributions being sent through any other channels. These societies would be gratified to learn, and have a right to know, how their gifts are dispensed by that Commission of whose constant intercourse with the camps they have judiciously availed themselves for conveying their stores of bandages, lint, vaccine, medicine and warm clothing, among the various regiments, as the exigencies of each might require.

A vast amount of good has doubtless been done, and much suffering prevented, by the labors of the Sanitary Commission in the several camps. Still, in fulfilling its trust and doing its work, this organization is not opposed, but is rather subordinate, to the proper medical authorities of the army. There is cause for regret that so fundamental a condition of the service should of late have been to some extent lost sight of. Let the Sanitary Commission retrace its steps, cease to obtrude into matters beyond its powers, and keep in view the momentous objects for which it was at first appointed. Let detailed public reports be given of the practical results of its labors, both in inspecting our camps and in benefiting our soldiers. The public will then check their rising suspicions, and will respond with confidence to any appeals for aid in such an important field of patriotic usefulness. For it is the wish of the nation that, as our army is larger, more intelligent, and better equipped than any force ever mobilized at such short notice by the military Powers of Europe, so it shall be better fed, more healthy, and more thoroughly cared for in the field.

The Telegraph and the Message.

The Message of President LINCOLN was telegraphed yesterday to all parts of the loyal States. The Message contains 7,578 words, and was all received in this City in 1 hour and 33 minutes, a feat of telegraphing unparalleled in the Old or New World.

Mr. SANFORD, the President of the American Telegraph Company, and his able Superintendents and subordinate operators, are entitled to the highest credit for thus accomplishing such a work in such a short space of time. The Message was manifolded by the Associated Press Agency in this City, and placed in the hands of the printers of the various newspapers in less than two hours from the commencement of its transmission.

THE CHARTER ELECTION.

LISTS OF SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

GEORGE OPDYKE, MAYOR.

Fernando Wood the Lowest in the Field.

Scenes at the Various Political Headquarters.

Excitement in and Around the Newspaper Offices.

The Charter election, yesterday, was, considering the intensity of the feeling enlisted for and against the candidates for the principal offices to be filled, unusually orderly and well conducted. There has not been an election since that which resulted in the choice of ABRAHAM LINCOLN to the Presidency, which the people of the City have evinced so much eagerness and impatience to learn the particulars of, as the election yesterday. From an early hour in the evening, until the time the full vote for the candidates for the Mayoralty was announced, the business office of the TIMES, and a considerable portion of the space in front, was crammed with people who shouted for news, and when it came, shouted for OPDYKE, until news came again; and, when the grand result was announced, the cheering was tremendous.

The following are the aggregate votes as gathered with great care from the books of the Inspectors, at all the Election Districts:

FOR MAYOR:

OPDYKE	25,258
GUNTHER	24,639
WOOD	24,084
OPDYKE over GUNTHER	619
OPDYKE over WOOD	1,173
GUNTHER over WOOD	555

In order that the reader may be enabled to note the change which has taken place since the election for Mayor in 1859, when there were, as now, three candidates in the field, we publish, side by side, the vote by Wards then and in 1861.

COMPARATIVE VOTE BY WARDS.

The following table shows the vote for Mayor by Wards, compared with the vote for HAVEMEYER, WOOD and OPDYKE, in 1859, when the result showed—WOOD over HAVEMEYER, 3,283, and over OPDYKE, 8,352:

	MAYOR—1859.			MAYOR—1861.		
	Havemeyer.	Wood.	Opdyke.	Opdyke.	Wood.	Gunther.
1st Ward	549	821	284	404	584	504
2d Ward	156	155	163	211	112	96
3d Ward	220	243	175	165	201	135
4th Ward	513	1464	262	261	1538	372
5th Ward	883	1011	665	799	600	646
6th Ward	1340	1110	153	261	860	1695
7th Ward	1207	1826	1039	1020	1039	1056
8th Ward	1506	1410	957	1081	1010	1387
9th Ward	2112	1441	2320	2402	1030	1387
10th Ward	1184	913	771	860	656	1101
11th Ward	1769	2206	1063	1346	1916	2079
12th Ward	862	980	583	818	566	1441
13th Ward	1082	1241	868	981	1045	1038
14th Ward	1008	1635	364	378	1347	831
15th Ward	1461	733	1245	1522	633	560
16th Ward	1607	1607	1818	2146	1238	849
17th Ward	2230	2573	1799	2058	3042	2510
18th Ward	1845	2030	1412	1835	1762	1524
19th Ward	825	1408	831	1157	1526	1234
20th Ward	1783	1936	2133	2078	1603	1687
21st Ward	1591	1682	1461	2024	1281	1079
22d Ward	1021	1670	1365	1451	1406	1372
Totals	26,843	30,125	21,773	25,258	24,084	24,639

Wood over Havemeyer..3,283
Wood over Opdyke.....8,352
Havemeyer over Opdyke.....5,070

Opdyke over Gunther.. 619
Opdyke over Wood..... 1,173
Gunther over Wood..... 555

ALDERMEN ELECTED.

Dist.
2..William Walsh, Tammany and Republican.
4..C. H. Hall, Republican, (probably.)
6..James Reed, Tammany.
8..Peter Mitchell, Tammany (Split.)
10..George A. Jeremiah, Tammany and Mozart.
12..F. I. A. Boole, Tammany.
14..J. D. Attiwell, Republican, (probably.)
16..Terrence Farley, Tammany and Mozart.

THE VOTE FOR ALDERMEN.

The Second District is composed of the Fourth and Sixth Wards.

Tammany, Repub. & Union.		*Mozart Democrat.*	
Wm. Walsh	2,672	Richard Barry	906
Walsh over Barry	1,566		

The Eighth District is composed of parts of the Seventh, Eleventh and Thirteenth Wards.

Tammany and Mozart.		*Republican.*	
Peter McKnight	1918	John Lewis	1383
Split Tammany.		Mitchell over Knight	55
Peter Mitchell	1973	Knight over Lewis	957

The Tenth District is composed of parts of the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Wards.

Tammany and Mozart.		*Republican.*	
George A. Jeremiah	2,844	Wm. A. Smalley	1,183
Split Mozart.			
Arba K. Maynard	20		
Jeremiah over Smalley	1,661		
Smalley over Maynard	1,163		

The Twelfth District is composed of parts of the Eleventh and Seventeenth Wards.

Tammany and Union.		*Mozart and Republican.*	
F. I. A. Boole	2,778	Bernard Kelly	2,743
Boole over Kelly	35		

THE VOTE FOR COUNCILMEN.

Seventh District.

This district is composed of the Twelfth, Nineteenth, Twenty-first and Twenty-second Wards.

Tammany.			
Jacob M. Long	1,074	John Lyons	980
John Cavanagh	695	Thomas J. Dunn	975
John Brice	1,229	Samuel R. Kepner	1,628
Republican.			
Luke Curnen	669	Jonathan Trotter	1,560
Alexander Brandon	1,057	John Crosser, Jr.	1,562
Wm. Joyce	935	Hamlin Babcock	1,580
Mozart.		Chas. C. Pinckney	1,669
Wm. Harris	1,226	Thomas Ogilvie	1,524
Frank McDonough	977	Michael Snyder	2,213
Keyron Perkins	1,020		

7..All Republican. C. C. Pinckney, Michael Snyder, Hamlin Babcock, John Cooper, Jr., Jonathan Trotter and Thomas Ogleble.

At 3 A. M. it is impossible, with any decree of accuracy, to indicate the successful candidates in any of the districts except the Seventh. This delay is caused by the great number of candidates, and the extraordinary number of scratched tickets.

Police Justice for the Third Police Judicial District.

Mozart.		*Independent.*	
R. Livingston Linn	819	Martin Waters	404
Citizens and Tax-Payers.		Dodge over Shaw	536
James M. Murray	2,017	Shaw over Murray	576
Republican.		Murray over Linn	198
John J. Shaw	2,057	Linn over Waters	415
Tammany.			
Wm. E. Dodge	2,593		

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS ELECTED.

Wards.
1....James Woods, Tammany and Republican.
2....James F. Horan, Republican.
3....Edward B. Heath, Tammany and Mozart.
4....Peter Meade, Tammany and Mozart.
5....J. M. Tuthill, Republican and Citizen's.
6....Timothy Brennan, Tammany.
7....Daniel Coger, Republican and Citizen's.
8....W. W. Adams, Republican.
9....John Nash, Tammany.
10....Daniel Sloat, Tammany and Mozart.
11....R. S. Larimore, Mozart and Republican.
12....Charles Boyce, Tammany and Mozart.
13....Charles Shaffer, Mozart and Republican.
14....W. S. Willehm, Tammany and Mozart.
15....Ed. Robinson, Republican.
16....Wm. Jay Haskett, Tammany and Mozart.
17....J. L. Miller, Tammany.
18....Wm. E. Curtis, Tammany and Mozart.
19....Patrick Lord, Tammany and Mozart.
20....James Moore, Tammany.
21....Andrew V. Stout, Tammany and Mozart.
22....A. H. Underhill, Republican.

DISTURBANCE IN THE SIXTH WARD.—A fight took place yesterday afternoon, near the polls in Leonard-street, between DAVID LOFTUS and JOHN HELLIS (an emigrant runner) on one side, and MARTIN WATERS on the other. WATERS refused to vote for WOOD, and this gave offence to the others, who made an attack upon him. HELLIS drew a pistol, and struck WATERS on the side of the head. The force of the blow caused the pistol to go off, and the bullet passed through a throng of bystanders, but, fortunately, did no injury. At this point, Capt. DOWLING, of the Sixth Precinct Police, seeing that the affray was growing serious, rushed in and took HELLIS into custody. LOFTUS made his escape through the back window of a house in the neighborhood. The wounds inflicted upon WATERS are very serious. HELLIS was detained in the Sixth Ward Station-house last night. This morning he will be taken to the Tombs for examination.

SCENES IN PUBLIC PLACES.

THE OPDYKE HEADQUARTERS.

Great Crowds and Much Enthusiasm—Almost a Crash—Remarks by Mr. Opdyke—Processions and Bonfires.

As the first rumors of the result of the election in favor of Mr. OPDYKE began to reach No. 618 Broadway, the headquarters selected by the supporters of the successful candidate for the Mayoralty, continuous streams of people set in for that centre. By 7 P. M. the rooms and corridors of the building, which is very ill adapted to such occasions, were thronged, and the adjacent sidewalks densely packed with a swaying mass of men, eagerly canvassing the returns and debating the chances. It was already believed that GEORGE OPDYKE had been elected, but only, as some vehement partisans elegantly and anatomically expressed it, "by the skin of his teeth."

Overhead, the huge banner extended across Broadway, and inscribed with the name of the candidate and the National insignia, waved and rustled cheerfully in the frosty air, and the immense transparency that covered the front of the political wigwam, lighted *a giorno*, shed a ruby illumination over the eager and excited throng. From time to time, as fresh intelligence arrived bringing renewed encouragement, cheer after cheer was given for OPDYKE, followed by the deepest groans for WOOD. The friends of FERNANDO kept very quiet, but the Gunther men, fortified by a late edition of the *Tribune*, were incredulous and sarcastic, claiming 61 plurality for their favorite, and smiling with commiseration upon the benighted condition of the 'Dykers.

About 8 P. M., as Mr. GEORGE OPDYKE, accompanied by his son, and surrounded and followed by a large number of the Republican Central Club, appeared in front of the building and made his way up stairs, the "fun grew fast and furious," and a desperate effort was made by the concourse outside to force more men into the narrow rooms than they would hold. Even the long room up stairs will scarcely accommodate 200 persons, and the Committee Room in front scarcely fifty. The consequence was that, at the first rush, both apartments were jammed full to suffocation, the stairways were choked, and there was neither further ingress nor egress for those who were so unfortunate as to be caught in the crowds on the corridor. At this moment, and while the utmost confusion prevailed, an alarm was loudly given that the building was not only unsafe, but that the first floor ceiling, directly beneath the Committee Room, was giving way. A struggle to reach the street ensued, which, fortunately, resulted only in a few torn coats and some scattering bruises. A large proportion of the mass inside, amounting, however, to not a fourth part of the throng on the street, succeeded in securing their exit, amid shouts and huzzahs for "OPDYKE and the Union."

The party in the Committee Room, comprising several active City politicians, members of the Press, and others prominent in the ranks of the Republican Central Club, secured the doors, and excluding the dangerous numbers hitherto admitted, proceeded to canvass the general result of the Mayoralty vote. A return from the TIMES Office, purporting to be official and assigning to Mr. OPDYKE a majority of 1,173 over WOOD, and 619 over GUNTHER, was handed to the first named gentleman, who, amid the most enthusiastic cheering, was called upon for a speech. In view of the closeness of the returns, and for other reasons, Mr. OPDYKE declined making an authoritative address, but informally expressed the satisfaction he felt in receiving, even if beaten, so distinguished a mark of the confidence of his fellow-citizens as a vote of more than 25,000 indicated in a City hitherto ruled by his opponents and the opponents of his party. The latter had employed every device to defeat him, and had placarded the City with flaming handbills libeling his character shamefully. Honest men had now rebuked them, and should he be indeed the elect of the people, he should endeavor to prove worthy of their preference in an upright administration of their municipal affairs and a steadfast support of the Federal Union.

Mr. OPDYKE closed amid prolonged cheering, and Messrs. SPENCER and others having characterized the result as a mighty, a glorious triumph in the election of a Republican Mayor for the City of New-York, the candidate withdrew, accompanied by several intimate friends.

A large crowd, with drums and torches, repaired to Mr. OPDYKE'S, on Fith-avenue, near Sixteenth-street, but the Mayor elect not having returned thither, they contented themselves with three times three hearty cheers, and dispersed.

The concourse in front of No. 618 Broadway, remained until about 10 P. M., alternately cheering for OPDYKE and groaning for WOOD, until the lights having been extinguished and the rooms closed, they, too, gradually retired, congratulating themselves and all they met on the grand result.

AT TAMMANY HALL.

The Wigwam Rejoices at the Defeat of Wood.

The scenes in and around the Old Wigwam last evening were not of that spirited and jubilant nature which were witnessed in the days when she was the resort of the united and victorious Democratic Party. The crowd in attendance was less numerous, far less enthusiastic, and infinitely less belligerent than of old. Still, there was a certain kind of joy manifested as the returns came in—a joy not unlike that which one feels on seeing a bully antagonist, whom he is unable to whip himself, soundly thrashed by a third party, even though he has no particular liking for party No. 3. It appeared to be glory enough for one night to know that the great FERNANDO was whipped, even though Tammany did not apply the lash. And when the gradually accumulating returns indicated that WOOD was the third in the race, and that the great Mozart organization had finally dwindled down to a tail of the Tammany kite, shouts of triumph rendered the air scarcely less boisterous than if Tammany herself had been victorious. The early returns were quite favorable to GUNTHER, and the crowd that had congregated in the lower halls, previous to the opening of the Hall, began to get quite enthusiastic with the idea that their candidate was elected. Then it was that the utter insignificance and contemptuousness of FERNANDO and his faction were vividly portrayed. Above the din and cackle of the jabbering throng, through the clouds of smoke, and the all-pervading fumes of whisky, could be heard the constantly repeated declaration, that "WOOD was played out," "WOOD'S gone in," "WOOD'S nowhere;" "D—n WOOD;" "$500 to $200 that GUNTHER'S our next Mayor,"—(this remark came from a man who had just borrowed six cents to get a drink;) "Three cheers for GUNTHER." At length it was announced that the doors of the Council Chamber were open, and the crowd rushed up stairs. Mr. JAMES NESBIT took the stand, and called the meeting to order. He said they had assembled to hear the returns of the election of C. GODFREY GUNTHER as Mayor of New-York. [Cheers for GUNTHER.] He had not much to say, himself, but would call on his friend, Mr. BOGERT. Mr. BOGERT not answering the call, there were cries for "CORNELL! Senator CORNELL!" Senator CORNELL also failed to respond, although he was in the hall, and there were calls for EELING. Mr. EELING took the stand, and read to the audience the returns of two or three Wards which seemed to favor the election of GUNTHER, whereat the boys gave three more cheers for that gentleman.

The next Speaker who was induced to take the stand was CHAUNCEY SHAFFER, whose presence in the Hall seemed to astonish every one. SHAFFER, however, was not at all astonished, but took the thing as a matter of course, and made himself perfectly at home. He proceeded to tell them that his old friend and first client he ever had in New-York, C. GODFREY GUNTHER, was elected Mayor of New-York. He was sure of it, and he was thankful that it was so. Tammany was the true place, after all: and the honest, hard-fisted Democracy was the true party, and the party that was bound to run the machine of this Government for all time to come. He (the speaker) was first taken up by Old Tammany when he came to this City, 16 years ago, and he was bound to stand by her still. Some returns were here handed to the speaker, who, after reading the vote of WOOD and GUNTHER, hesitated at the name of OPDYKE, and asked if they supposed he would speak the name of OPDYKE in Tammany Hall? "Why," said he, "the only objection that OPDYKE made against my appointment at Washington was that I used to train in Tammany Hall." And now OPDYKE has gone to the wall, and Tammany would live forever. [Cheers.] He had a right to speak to Democrats, even if he had made a fool of himself and voted for old ABE LINCOLN. [Applause.] Six months ago he walked into the White House, and told the President he must reinforce Fort Sumter, and put down this rebellion, and that if he would just telegraph to Old Tammany, she would take the job of doing it. For this remark he lost his appointment of District-Attorney, although it had not then been sent into the Senate.

The speaker was here interrupted by the arrival of more returns. After reading which, Senator SPINOLA was loudlily caled for, and, after long and urgent entreaty, was finally induced to take the stand. He said he wished he could congratulate them upon the certainty of GUNTHER'S election and the defeat of that arch Abolitionist, GEORGE OPDYKE; for if any heart would rejoice in that defeat it would be his. He conceived that Mr. OPDYKE'S election at the present time would be a national calamity. We had a party growing up here at the North more dangerous than the rebels of the South; it was the Abolition Party. [Cheers.] It belonged to them to deal with both, and to strike down the double-headed monster. Tammany was in favor of the preservation of this Union; she had sent forth hosts to battle for it, and while her sons were fighting the country's battles, the Abolitionists, who were as much responsible for the war as the rebels, took good care to stay at home. Men were imprisoned at Fort Lafayette for language not half as treasonable as the utterances of GREELEY, PHILLIPS, CHEEVER and OPDYKE. [Cheers.] He closed by expressing the hope that he would be able to-morrow to congratulate them upon the election of GUNTHER.

Some other speakers of little note followed, but the greater portion of the audience gradually found their way down stairs and out to the newspaper offices to get reliable returns of the election, and, having seen the returns, very few thought it worth the while to return to the Wigwam.

MOZART HALL.

Mayor Wood's Friends Lugubrious—How they Received the Returns.

Mozart Hall was by turns jubilant and despondent, last evening, while the returns came in. Alternately cheering as Mayor WOOD'S prospects brightened, and groaning as they darkened; now mounting to the acme of delight, and next descending to the despondency of despair, the vast crowd in the room, half-stifled with tobacco smoke and foul air, kept up the excitement for several hours. Hon. D. B. TAYLOR officiated as Chairman, and LEVI D. WHITE acted as Secretary, the one announcing as the other footed up the momentous figures.

Police Judge THOMPSON, during the early part of the evening, favored the audience with a speech, denouncing "the miserable Abolitionist OPDYKE," and extolling the National Union Democrats, FERNANDO WOOD and DICKINSON! He would as soon see MASON, or SLIDELL, or CHEEVER, or BEECHER, elected Mayor as OPDYKE.

The Chairman next spoke, deprecating the fact that most of their returns came from the stronghold of the enemy. But, it was his duty to give the result. They might as well grapple with the result to-night as to-morrow morning. They had a number of Democratic strongholds to hear from, and OPDYKE was over two thousand ahead. [Whistles, cries of "phew," and groans.] But if it should happen that the Fourth Ward gave a majority for WOOD—say 1,000—and the Eleventh Ward another thousand, and the Seventeenth Ward say a little five hundred, and WOOD is elected! [Cheers.] Then let the Nineteenth Ward give him 500 and he is elegantly elected; and *if* the Fourteenth Ward gives him 3,500 he is elected by 4,000 majority. [Cheers and laughter.

A VOICE—Oh! he can make that up.

ANOTHER VOICE—Oh! he'll be elected sure.

THE CHAIRMAN—We'll never say die till we hear from our Democratic strongholds. A poor exile from a foreign land offered yesterday to kill WOOD for $50, and they wouldn't hire him to do the job. [Laughter.] I feel it way back in the deepest recesses of my heart that FERNANDO WOOD is elected. [Cheers.] It will be the most important event since the election of *Linkhorn* to the Presidential Chair. [Laughter.] There are those who think that any man who wishes to restore this Union in fraternal affection and love ought to be placed in Fort Lafayette; but we believe, with FERNANDO WOOD, that we must carry on the war with the sword in one hand and the olive branch in the other, [applause,] and say to the enemy, Accept life, and liberty, and happiness, or death at my hands. [Applause.] But the party to which Mr. OPDYKE belongs wants to make this a war for the extermination of the white man, and the glorification of the nigger. [Applause.] No man can speak of liberty without being sent to the Bastile, while their Cheevers are allowed to preach Abolitionism. I am reminded of the inscription on the tomb of Thermopylæ, "Go tell the Lacedemonians that we lie here obedient subjects to their laws," for in their graves only would they submit to the accursed offspring of the negro race. [Applause.] They delight in the thought that the negro is better than a white man [applause] I only wish they would come out boldly and be compelled to hug the nigger wenches. [Laughter and applause.]

A VOICE—The Fourth Ward gives WOOD 1,165 majority. [Applause.]

THE CHAIRMAN—It is remarkable that the Police Department can give us the returns from Harlem Bridge and Spuyten Devil Creek, and they can't tell us about the Fourteenth Ward. [Laughter.]

A VOICE—The Fourteenth gives 700 over Boston. [Great laughter.]

THE CHAIRMAN—Our friend means 700 over both candidates. JIMMY LYNCH says that he thinks FERNANDO will even beat him a little in the Fourteenth Ward. [Laughter.] It reminds me of what Major JACK DOWNING said of Gen. JACKSON, when he marched down Broadway to Grand street.

A VOICE—In the Eighteenth *Electorial* District of the Eleventh Ward, KELLY, WOOD'S man, gets 267 votes, and BOOLE 87.

THE CHAIRMAN—We have not heard from four districts of the Eleventh Ward. According to our present returns, Mr. WOOD is 200 in advance of the others. [Applause.]

A VOICE—How is the old Sixth?

THE CHAIRMAN—It seems impossible for the old Sixth to listen to the voice of reason since she came under the control of JOHN CLANCY. CLANCY went to the Baltimore Convention determined to break up the Union or get WOOD out. He fought like the beasts of Ephesus, [laughter,] and succeeded, and now it is almost impossible for an honest man to vote in that Ward without losing one or both of his eyes, and limping to the polls. [The old Fourteenth Ward is so unfortunate as to lie alongside of it. But so far as our returns go now, we make out Mr. WOOD 260 ahead in the City. [Applause.]

A VOICE—Let's get the cannon up.

THE CHAIRMAN—No, no; it is not time yet.

A VOICE—How about the Sixteenth Ward?

THE CHAIRMAN—It gives OPDYKE a majority.

THE VOICE—Then he is elected. [Laughter.]

ANOTHER VOICE—The Sixteenth Ward gives OPDYKE 1,150.

STILL ANOTHER—I'll bet $50 it ain't so.

At this point, a courier arrived, with a report from the Ninth Ward, giving Mr. OPDYKE 3,400 votes in that Ward. Considerable merriment and indignation ensued.

A VOICE—The telegraph is drunk.

ANOTHER—He got it from a Jew at the door.

ANOTHER—Put him out.

The unfortunate messenger was pretty roughly handled, but escaped, in the general interest to hear the result.

A VOICE—How about KELLY and BOOLE?

ANOTHER—Oh, Boole is dead.

THE CHAIRMAN—It is strange we don't hear from the Eleventh Ward. The general impression is the Eleventh has seceded. [Laughter.]

A VOICE—I do not see the point.

THE CHAIRMAN—I am handed a slip that purports to come from the Police Headquarters stating that OPDYKE is elected. But our figures make him about 1,700 ahead, with the Eleventh and Seventeenth Wards to hear from. [Cheers, and cries of "WOOD is elected."] If I understand anything of the Eleventh Ward from the indications to-night from two districts, and the Seventeenth Ward does anything at all, WOOD is elected and entitled to be Duke of Bloomingdale for two years longer. [Applause and laughter.] GUNTHER is out of the field, and we will take no more Godfrey's cordial.

THE CHAIRMAN—From the returns that have come in, it appears that OPDYKE leads Mr. WOOD some 1,800 votes. Thus ends the last political contest in New-York. I believe that every one that voted to-day was protected in his legal rights, and I wish I could hope that under the administration of the Abolition Party, freemen were as safe as we have been this day in New-York. [Cheers for FERNANDO WOOD.] We will hope for the best, although I must confess that it will be hoping against hope. Let us remember that we have 23,000 men to begin the next contest—to vindicate the principles of the National Democracy. We must now watch and think, and contemplate and hope. "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church." [Solemnly.] We will now bring these proceedings to a close. After cheering for Mr. TAYLOR and "the defeated candidate," the *debris* of the audience, the main portion having previously departed, wended its way toward the bar at the other end of the room, and then went out—and so did the lights.

THE GERMAN REPUBLICAN HEADQUARTERS.

How They Received the News.

At the Steuben House, on the Bowery, near Houston street, the Headquarters of the German Republicans, there was much cheering and rejoicing, and an immense bonfire in front of the building illuminated the adjacent blocks, and the monster Opdyke banner suspended across the thoroughfare. At HELD'S Hotel and Pythagoras Hall there was a warm interchange of congratulations by the members of the German Union League, and at the TIMES Office the Germans were joyously congregated until after 11 o'clock.

SCENES AROUND THE POLLS.

Arrests for Attempting to Vote Illegally, &c.

BENJAMIN SMITH was arrested yesterday, by officer LANAGAN, of the Sixth Ward, for attempting to vote illegally, and locked up in the Station-house. With this exception, we have heard of no arrests for this offence. In the Fourth Ward there were two arrests for drunkenness and disorderly conduct. Two or three arrests were made by the Police in the Eighteenth Ward, where a fight occurred in the early part of the day. The difficulty arose between the adherents of candidates for Alderman. One man, whose name could not be ascertained, had his head seriously bruised, and otherwise so badly injured that it is believed he cannot recover.

The rumshops were generally closed throughout the City, and an entrance thereto could only be effected by means of side doors.

The Police arrangements were thorough and well planned throughout the City, and it was owing to this that unusual quietness prevailed around the polls. There was, during the day and evening, a reserve force on hand at Headquarters, ready for any emergency that might arise.

From Bermuda.

LOSS ON BELT J. W. PANNIN.

By an arrival from Bermuda at this port, we have dates to Nov. 14.

The ship *J. W. Pannin*, Capt. BARNES, hence Nov. 3, for Rotterdam, experienced heavy weather, causing her to leak badly; the Captain endeavored to return to New-York, but the pumps having become choked with grain, was obliged to bear up for Bermuda. On the 12th of November, when about ten miles northwest of Bermuda, the *Pannin* struck on the reefs, where she now lies, and in consequence of the northwest gale which prevailed, must have proved a total wreck. Every exertion was being made to save as much cargo as possible. The *Pannin* rated A 2, was 372 tons, built in Portland, Conn., in 1849, and owned by J. H. BROWER & Co., of this City.

The bark *Louisa Bliss*, Capt. LORD, of St. Andrew's, N. B., thirty-three days from Cuba, bound to Falmouth, and laden with mahogany, tobacco, &c., anchored on the 9th ultimo in Five-Fathom Hole, leaking badly. Will have to discharge cargo in order to effect needful repairs.

American schooner *Palmyra*, DAVIS, on a whaling cruise, having been out seven months, arrived at St. George's, Bermuda, on the 9th ultimo, where she will ship oil, and perhaps day by for some time.

Arrived at Hamilton, Bermuda, Nov. 9, schooner *St. George*, PENNISTON, New-York.

Sailed, Nov. 7, bark *Oraville*, CROCKETT, New-York; 7th, brig *Contest*, DAKIN, New-York.

News from the Pacific Coast.

SAN FRANCISCO, Saturday, Nov. 30.

Arrived, bark *Betty Perlback*, London.

Sailed, the steamer *St. Louis*, for Panama, with $98,400 in treasure and forty passengers, including Senator STARK, of Oregon, several army officers, and about 2,000 newly-made soldiers.

The following ships have sailed recently: *Avon*, Sidney; *G. B. Palmer*, Singapore; the whaler *John Howland*.

Closing of the People's College.

ALBANY, Tuesday, Dec. 3.

The Trustees of the People's College met here to-night and resolved to close the College for the season, in consequence of the want of patronage.

Death of an Assemblyman.

ALBANY, Tuesday, Dec. 3.

JOHN VANDERREE, the Democratic member of the Assembly elect from the First District of Albany County, died this morning, after a brief illness.

Arrivals in the City.

Hon. T. B. Lawrence, Consul-General to Florence; Ed. Ogden, of New-York; Capt. J. S. Nicholas, of the U. S. Navy; Thomas Motley, W. R. Robeson, and E. F. Bowditch, of Boston, are at the Brevoort House.

Hon. Wm. Whitney, of Boston; Hon. J. Hillyard Cameron, of Toronto, and Judge N. K. Hall, of Buffalo, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Judge Sherman, of Newburgh; Thomas Whitridge, of Baltimore; T. M. Bramhall, of Boston; Ezra D. Fogg, of Providence; Thomas Kennedy, of Glasgow, Scotland; Col. R. N. Hudson, of the U. S. A.; Thomas Kershaw, of Montreal; T. M. Payson, of Boston; W. L. Larned, of Baltimore, and R. N. Hazard, of Newport, are at the Fifth-avenue Hotel.

Prof. J. W. Patterson and G. H. Chandler, of Concord, N. H.; Col. Jewett, of Rochester; Maj. Terill, of the U. S. A.; B. Ghuardi, of the U. S. N.; Capt. Chamberlain, of the U. S. A.; C. W. Pickering, of the U. S. N.; and Capt. John Eldridge, of Cape Cod, are at the Astor House.

Capt. J. M. Potter, of the U. S. Army; H. Q. Anderson, of St. Louis; George Bullock, of Philadelphia; Samuel Nonds, of Massachusetts, and R. S. Burnett and E. Miles, of the U. S. Army, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Gen. Van Rensellaer, of Albany, and Ramon Pon, of Porto Rico, are at the New-York Hotel.

Hon. James H. Graham, of Delhi, N. Y., and J. Curtiss and W. J. Kerr, of Philadelphia, are at the Albemarle Hotel.

A MAN FATALLY INJURED IN AN AFFRAY.—CHRISTOPHER CHOLWELL, residing in East Houston-street, was so seriously injured in an affray about three weeks ago, that he died yesterday from the wounds then received. The deceased was attending a family party in Mulberry-street at the time of the occurrence, and got into a quarrel with his brother-in-law, JOSEPH MINNOW. During the quarrel, MINNOW struck the deceased on the head with a decanter. The wounds thus received were not at first regarded as serious, but inflammation subsequently set in, and he lingered until yesterday. A warrant was issued yesterday afternoon, by Coroner JACKMAN, for the arrest of MINNOW, and he was taken into custody, and held to await the result of the inquest. The deceased was lately employed as a driver on the Second-avenue line of stages. He was about 35 years of age, and leaves a wife and several children.

TRUSSES.—MARSH & CO.'S Radical Cure Truss, No. 2 Vesey-st., opposite the church. All kinds of Trusses, Supporters, (Military Shoulder Braces and Abdominal Supporters combined,) Elastic Stockings, and Mechanical appliances for Deformities. (A female attends ladies.)

MARRIED.

HIPPREE—BRIGGS.—In New-Rochelle, on Sunday, Dec. 1, by Rev. Lewis J. Coutant, Mr. EZRA S. HIPPREE to Miss EMILY BRIGGS, all of Mamaroneck, N. Y.

NICHOLS—RAND.—On Thursday, Nov. 28, by Rev. Lewis J. Coutant, Mr. GEORGE NICHOLS, of Wilton, Conn., to Miss ELVIRA RAND, of New-Rochelle, N. Y.

SMITH—L'HOMMEDIEU.—In New Village, L. I., on Thursday, Nov. 21, in the M. E. Church, by Rev. Wm. Worke, RICHARD W. SMITH to CHARLOTTE A. L'HOMMEDIEU.

SMITH—DARLING.—At Smithtown Landing, L. I., on Sunday, Nov. 24, by Rev. Wm. Worke, THOS. R. SMITH, of Centreport, to Miss LYDIA A. DARLING, of Smithtown Landing, L. I.

HIND—BLAKESLEY.—In Florida, Orange County, N. Y., on Monday, Dec. 2, by Rev. Edsall Ferrier, Mr. CHARLES W. BIRD, of New-York City, to Miss ASALINE BLAKESLEY, of the former place.

DIED.

O'REILLY.—In this City, on Sunday, Dec. 1, after a short illness, JAMES A. O'REILLY.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, on Thursday, the 5th inst., at 10 o'clock, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, without further invitation.

LODER.—In this City, on Tuesday, Dec. 3, of scarlet fever, FLORENCE T., youngest daughter of Cyrus W. and S. Amelia Loder, aged 3 years and 6 days.

Relatives and friends of the

LAW REPORTS.

COURT CALENDAR—THIS DAY.

U. S. DISTRICT COURT.—Prize causes, &c.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT.—*Part I.*—Nos. 1403, 1517, 1549, 1553, 1559, 1561, 1581, 1587, 1263, 1289, 1291, 1313, 1333, 1335, 1365, 1369, 1469, 1495, 1505, 1507. *Part II.*—No. 488—added to-day Calendar.

SUPREME COURT—SPECIAL TERM.—Demurrers—Nos. 156, 157, 158, 159, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169. Law and fact—Nos. 922, 475, 476, 477, 61, 315, 482, 483, 487, 489, 490.

SUPERIOR COURT.—*Part I.*—Nos. 711, 1069, 7, 2501, 2507, 2605, 1233, 2607, 2609, 2611, 2615, 2617, 2623, 2627, 2629, 2631. *Part II.*—Nos. 1795, 2776, 1185, 2340, 2500, 2512, 2548, 2650, 2652, 2654, 2656, 2658, 2664, 2666.

COMMON PLEAS.—*Part I.*—Nos. 1665, 122, 1666, 1667, 1668, 1669, 1670, 1671, 1582, 1506, 1581, 1637, 1299, 1075, 205. *Part II.*—Nos. 1470, 1204, 906, 1530, 1370, 1187, 574, 1462, 1417, 1136, 231, 1430, 1623, 1672, 1673.

Practice—Sham and Irrelevant Defences.

SUPREME COURT.

Before John E. Sanson, Referee.

Peter C. Baker and Daniel Godwin vs. *Wm. R. Prince and Wm. Prince.*—This was a motion for judgment on the pleadings, on the ground of the irrelevancy and frivolousness of the answer.

The following opinion of the Referee will explain the facts of the case:

SANSON, R.—Plaintiff's counsel moves for judgment on the pleadings, on the ground that the answer does not deny that the plaintiff did the work, performed the services, and furnished the material, as alleged in the complaint, and to recover for which the action is brought, or that such labor, services and material were done, performed and furnished at the prices agreed upon as alleged in the complaint.

Counsel does not state under which section of the code he makes the motion; but it is plain, from the grounds stated, that the motion must come under section 247 of the code, which provides thus: "If a demurrer, answer or reply be frivolous, the party prejudiced thereby, upon a previous notice of five days, may apply to a Judge of the Court, either in or out of the Court, for judgment thereon, and judgment may be given accordingly."

The complaint alleges that the plaintiffs at different times between the 28th day of October, 1859, done and performed work, labor and services for the defendants, and that they printed, furnished and delivered to the defendants during that period, and at the request of the defendants, a large amount of pamphlets, books, catalogues, printing and materials, at prices agreed upon to be paid for by the defendants in cash when such work, materials, &c., were done and delivered. It is further alleged that over and above, and exclusive of all payments, offsets and counter claims, the defendants were indebted to the plaintiffs on the 1st day of August, 1860, in a large sum which is stated in the complaint.

The answer denies that the defendant "did, on the 1st day of August, 1860, or at any other time, owe the said plaintiffs the sum claimed, or any other sum, or that they were on that day, or at any other time, indebted to the said plaintiffs in the sum set forth in the complaint, or any part thereof."

It seems to me that the only motion of this sort, applicable to such a defence, would be under section No. 152 of the code, to strike out the defence as shown. A frivolous answer denies no material allegation of the complainant. The answer in this case does deny the most material fact set out in the complaint. It denies, totally, the indebtedness which is alleged as the cause of action. It cannot therefore be frivolous.

The answer does not, however, controvert the statement in the complaint, that the plaintiffs performed the work alleged, and in the manner and for certain prices agreed upon as alleged. It merely denies the indebtedness—which may be a conclusion of law concerning facts which do not appear. It may be that the defendants conclude, by reason of the existence of certain facts which are not disclosed in the complaint, they are not indebted to the plaintiffs, as alleged therein. The existence of such facts, if any any there be, should have been pleaded.

The complaint alleges certain facts which the answer does not deny. Those facts are therefore conceded to be true. If they are true, then the defendants are indebted to the plaintiffs in the sum stated in the complaint. For all the purposes of such a motion, the facts stated in that part of the complaint which sets forth that the work and labor were done and delivered and the materials furnished at the request of the defendants, is true, not being denied. And being true, the answer of the defendants respecting the indebtedness of the plaintiffs, must be a legal falsehood, and hence liable to be stricken out as sham. (Drake vs. Cockroft, 10 How., 337; 1 Abb. 203; 4 E. D. Smith, 34.)

No such motion has been made.

The motion for judgment on the pleadings, on the grounds stated, must be denied.

John N. Lewis, Jr., for plaintiffs; Hon. Levi S. Chatfield for plaintiffs.

Weather at Montreal.

MONTREAL, Tuesday, Dec. 3.

The weather here is cold and clear. The thermometer stands at 10° above zero.

Movements of European Steamers.

FROM EUROPE.

Bavaria	Southampton	New-York	Nov. 20
City of Baltimore	Liverpool	New-York	Nov. 20
Jura	Liverpool	Portland	Nov. 21
St. Andrew	Glasgow	New-York	Nov. 23
Africa	Liverpool	New-York	Nov. 23
Kangaroo	Liverpool	New-York	Nov. 27
Bremen	Southampton	New-York	Nov. 27
Hansa	Southampton	New-York	Nov. 27
Anglo-Saxon	Liverpool	Portland	Nov. 28
Europa	Liverpool	Boston	Nov. 30
City of New-York	Liverpool	New-York	Dec. 4
Teutonia	Southampton	New-York	Dec. 4
Bohemian	Liverpool	Portland	Dec. 5
Australasian	Liverpool	New-York	Dec. 7
Arago	Southampton	New-York	Dec. 11
Nova Scotian	Liverpool	Portland	Dec. 12
Niagara	Liverpool	Boston	Dec. 14
Hammonia	Southampton	New-York	Dec. 18
Asia	Liverpool	New-York	Dec. 21
Bremen	Southampton	New-York	Dec. 25
Canada	Liverpool	Boston	Dec. 28
Borussia	Southampton	New-York	Jan. 1

FROM AMERICA.

Asia	New-York	Liverpool	Dec. 4
Fulton	New-York	Southampton	Dec. 7
City of Manchester	New-York	Liverpool	Dec. 7
Bohemian	Portland	Liverpool	Dec. 7
United Kingdom	New-York	Glasgow	Dec. 10
Canada	Boston	Liverpool	Dec. 11
Jura	Portland	Liverpool	Dec. 14
City of Baltimore	New-York	Liverpool	Dec. 14
Africa	New-York	Liverpool	Dec. 18
Hansa	New-York	Southampton	Dec. 21
Anglo-Saxon	Portland	Liverpool	Dec. 21
St. Andrew	New-York	Glasgow	Dec. 24
Europa	Boston	Liverpool	Dec. 25
Bohemian	Portland	Liverpool	Dec. 28
Arago	New-York	Southampton	Jan. 4
Nova Scotian	Portland	Liverpool	Jan. 4

Departure of European Mails.

The mails for Europe by the steamship *Asia* will close at the New-York Post-office to-day, (Wednesday,) at 8 o'clock A. M.

Mails Close at the Post-office.

North Mails close at.....5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
South Mails close at.....5 A. M. and 4:30 P. M.
Western Mails (*via* Erie Railroad) 5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
Eastern Mails close at....5 A. M., 1½ P. M. and 6:30 P. M.

Mails for California, Oregon, Washington and the Sandwich Islands close daily at the New-York Post-office at 8½ A. M. and 3½ P. M.

On Sunday all Mails close at 1:30 P. M.

INSTRUCTION.

FRENCH COURSE.—MADAME E. BOUTILLIER, Instructress, licensed by the Faculty of Paris, will open a French course for ladies, Dec. 10. Elementary lessons—Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 3 to 4 P. M. Composition and Conversation—Tuesday and Thursday, from 3 to 4 P. M. Terms: Primary Course, $10; Advanced Course, $8. Payable quarterly, in advance.

N. B.—Private lessons at pupil's residence. Apply daily, from 2 to 3 P. M., at No. 43 East Bleecker-st., near Broadway.

MARSH'S WORKS ON BOOK-KEEPING, Complete and beautiful edition, Printed in colors, For sale at MARSH'S COUNTING ROOMS FOR PRACTICE IN BOOK-KEEPING AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS, Irving Buildings, No 596 Broadway. Circulars with terms on application.

JOHN MACMULLEN'S FRENCH, ENGLISH and Classical School was reopened Sept. 9, 1861, at No. 900 Broadway, corner of 20th-st. The Primary department is under the charge of a lady who has taught for eleven years in one of our best schools. Circulars at Lockwoods's, No. 411 Broadway; Price's, 686 Broadway; and at the School.

THE IRVING INSTITUTE, TARRYTOWN, N. Y., will commence its Forty-eighth semi-annual session on FRIDAY, Nov. 1, 1861, for boys only. Circulars can be had of Jas. M. Whitehead, No. 117 Nassau-st., Rooms of A. B. H. M. S., office of Manhattan Printing Ink Co., No. 1 Spruce-st., or by addressing the Principal. D. S. ROWE, M. A.

SPANISH LANGUAGE—TAUGHT IN NEW-York and Brooklyn by Señor ALBERTO DE TORNOS, from Madrid, Professor in the best schools of these cities. New-York, No. 311 4th-av., between 23d and 24th sts. Brooklyn, at the rooms of the Mercantile Library, corner of Atlantic and Clinton sts.

FORTEDWARD INSTITUTE, NEW-YORK—$110 per year. Best sustained Boarding Seminary in the State, brick buildings, for ladies and gentlemen. Able teachers in all departments. Winter Term, Dec. 5. On Whitehall and Saratoga Railroad. Address Rev. JOSEPH E. KING.

MOUNT WASHINGTON COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, No. 218 4th-st., on Washington-square, corner of Macdougal-st., (CLARKE & FANNING, Rectors, with twelve assistants,) prepares pupils of all ages for business or College.

PARKER AND BERTHET'S CLASSICAL, French and English School, with primary department and Gymnasium, No. 23 East 21st-st., corner of Broadway, will reopen Sept. 9. French is spoken in one department. Circulars at Lockwood's Bookstore.

AT PRICES TO SUIT THE TIMES.—$40 for board and tuition for 14 weeks. At Cooperstown Seminary. Term opens Dec. 6. (ladies and gentlemen.) Address R. C. FLACK, A. M., Cooperstown, N. Y.

IMPORTANT TO LADIES.—SOLDIERS' MITTENS.—All ladies who wish to be instructed in making soldiers' mittens, may call at Mme. BLUCHER'S, No. 396 4th-av., bringing their materials, and they shall be taught free of charge. Mme. Blucher will be ready to attend to them every SATURDAY, from 3 P. M. to 6 P. M., as long as her services are required.

AUCTION SALES.

RICHARD MORGAN, Auctioneer.

SUPERB FRENCH AND ENGLISH FANCY GOODS,

BY ORDER OF MESSRS. LEHMAN, FAVRE & CO., By EDWARD SCHENCK, at his salesroom Nos. 155 and 157 Broadway, at 10½ o'clock, THIS DAY and THURSDAY, Dec. 4 and 5, a large assortment of superb fancy goods of new patterns and designs, imported this season, consisting in part of

ELEGANT BRONZE, ORMOLU AND MARBLE CLOCKS.
ELEGANT BRONZE FIGURES AND GROUPS.
SEVRES AND FRENCH CHINA VASES.
PARIAN AND BISQUE FIGURES AND GROUPS.
LADIES' WORK-BOXES AND DRESSING CASES.
SUPERB ORMOLU GOODS.
SILVER-PLATED WARE.

And a large variety of the elegant fancy articles to be positively sold without any reserve.

The above are now on exhibition.

W. M. HOLLINGSHEAD, Auctioneer.

GREAT AUCTION SALE OF BOOTS AND SHOES, On THURSDAY, Dec. 5, at 10½ o'clock, BY ALEXIS BRAGG & WARREN, No. 30 Warren-st. FIVE HUNDRED CASES,

All first-class fresh goods, to be sold for cash, including a large assortment of MEN'S, BOYS' AND YOUTHS' BOOTS, Grain, Thick, Kip and Calf, Prime quality, adapted to the best retail trade. ALEXIS BRAGG & WARREN, No. 30 Warren-st. Cavalry Boots at private sale.

CHAMBERS & FAIRCHILD, Auctioneers, Salesroom No. 113 Nassau-st.,

SHERIFF'S SALE—SATINETS.

Will sell at their salesroom THIS DAY, Dec. 4, at 10 o'clock, 3,000 yards (or thereabout) Satinets, Of assorted grades and colors, all fresh goods, in full pieces and perfect order. JOHN KELLY, Sheriff.

AUCTION NOTICE—STOVE SALE.

The whole of the stock in No. 246 Water-st., consisting of a large variety of store, parlor and cooking stoves, will be sold at auction without reserve, commencing WEDNESDAY, Dec. 4, at 2 P. M., and continue each day till sold. Dealers and others are invited to attend

A. M. CRISTALAR, Auctioneer.

AUCTION SALE OF $20,000 WORTH OF FIRST-CLASS GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES AND VALUABLE MOVEMENTS—Being the stock of an importer, A. M. CRISTALAR, No. 23 Bowery, will sell on FRIDAY, Dec. 6, at 10½ o'clock, without reserve, a large line about 150 18-carat hunting, durable lime compensation balance, independent second chronometers and levers; 125 ladies' enameled and diamond watches, English full-jeweled patent and ¾-plate levers; Nickle 18-carat hunting straight line and detached levers and cylinders; 40 dozen silver hunting patent levers, anchors, lepines and verge watches; silver piacqua and silver-gilt hunting and open-face anchors and lepines. Also, a valuable line of fine diamond jewelry, consisting of single-stone hoop and cluster diamond, ruby, pearl and garnet brooches, rings, ear-rings and studs; 186 dozen silver extension and gold pencil-cases and gold pens; 450 fine English and other movements by celebrated makers; together with a variety of other goods in the line. Catalogues at sale. Terms cash. The trade are respectfully invited to the above sale, as the goods will be put up to suit dealers.

E. H. LUDLOW, Auctioneer.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—THE UNDERSIGNED will sell at public auction, at the Merchants' Exchange, in the City of New-York, on THURSDAY, the 12th day of December, 1861, at 12 Noon, the following described securities, viz.: Sixty-nine (69) Bonds of the Breckinridge Cannel Coal Company, of Kentucky, of $800 each, with the past due and other Coupons.

And also a certificate, which purports to entitle the owner thereof to twenty-four thousand eight hundred dollars ($24,800) of the new stock of said Breckinridge Cannel Coal Company, to be issued under the plan of relief adopted by said Company, June 1, 1858, as expressed in said certificate, the said bonds and Stock being now held as collateral security.

Dated New-York, Dec. 2, 1861.

GOODMAN & JESUP, Attorneys. No. 112 Broadway.

E. H. LUDLOW & CO., Auctioneers, No. 3 Pine-st.

A. C. TUTTLE, Auctioneer.

LARGE SALE OF FURS, SLEIGH ROBES, &c.—A. C. TUTTLE will sell, THIS DAY, at No. 194 Broadway, near John-st, the entire stock of a wholesale dealer, consisting of ladies' Russia and American Sable, Mink, Stone Marten, Ermine and Chinchilla carriage and walking Capes, Muffs, &c.

Also, Sleigh Robes, viz.: Wolf, Hudson Bay, Black Bear, Leopard, &c.

N. B.—The whole to be peremptorily sold, and warranted of this year's manufacture, and free from moth.

J. H. BURLEY, Auctioneer,

WILL SELL, THIS DAY, AT TWO o'clock, at 444 Canal-st., bureaus, bedsteads, chairs, tables, sofas, sofa-beds, mirrors, wardrobes, stoves, hair and other mattresses, feather beds, comforters, blankets, pillows, Brussels, three-ply and other carpets, oilcloths, druggets, etageres, washstands, vases, clocks, têtes, kitchen furniture, cutlery, crockery, &c.

P. C. BULKLEY, Auctioneer.

WILL SELL ON THURSDAY, DEC. 12, at 12 o'clock, at the Merchants' Exchange, without reserve, the valuable stores and dwellings known as Nos. 306 and 312 Hamilton-av., Brooklyn. Terms easy. Maps may be obtained of the auctioneer, No. 43 Wall-st., or of H. P. BATES, Esq., No. 11 President-st., Brooklyn.

A. S. RICHARDS, Auctioneer.

1,000 CASES BOOTS, SHOES AND BROGANS at auction, by RICHARDS & WHITING, on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 4, at 10½ o'clock, at store No. 44 Cortlandt-st. This sale will comprise a good assortment of Winter goods, in all varieties. Catalogues on morning of sale.

GEORGE COOK, Auctioneer.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE OF ELEGANT HOUSEhold furniture THIS DAY, at 11 o'clock, at No. 141 Broadway, consisting of parlor, chamber, library and dining-room furnitue, carpets, fancy goods, &c., making an elegant stock. For particulars see catalogues at sale.

J. F. DAVIS, Auctioneer.

850 CASES BOOTS, SHOES AND BROGANS at auction, on THURSDAY, Dec. 5, at 10½ o'clock, at store of J. S. Leverett & Co., No. 16 Cortlandt-st., comprising a large assortment of fresh seasonable goods, adapted to City or country trade.

A. C. TUTTLE, Auctioneer.

DUTCH BULBOUS ROOTS AT AUCTION—THIS DAY, at 2 1-2 o'clock, at No. 114 Broadway, including HYACINTHS, TULIPS, Crown Imperials, Gladiolus, Narcissus, Crocus, &c. All in prime order and warranted true to names.

H. H. LEEDS, Auctioneer.

BY H. H. LEEDS, & Co., ON WEDNESDAY, Dec. 4, at 12 o'clock, in front of store No. 23 Nassau-st., bay mare, long tail, about 7 years old, very fast and stylish, gentle and kind in all harness, 15½ hands high, and an excellent saddle-horse.

FARMS.

FARMS FOR SALE IN DUTCHESS COUNTY.—A farm of 20¾ acres, situated about half a mile east of Hart's Village, and 16 miles from Poughkeepsie, and 8 miles from the Harlem Railroad Dépôt, at Dover Plains. The mail stage passes to and from Poughkeepsie daily. A good boarding and day school within about 1½ miles, and meetings of different persuasions within a short distance. The dwelling-house is nearly new and modern built, 36 feet front by 38 feet deep on the ground, with first floor consists of a hall, two good-sized parlors, with an extension room connected by sliding doors; a lodging-room, bath-room, and water closet. Second floor, four good-sized lodging rooms, with large garret above, a wing attached to the main building for dining-room and library, with two good lodging rooms, and store room above, with a private stairway. A large cellar under the whole. A kitchen, wash-room, and milk-room, with water constantly running into the wash-room, and to the barn-yard. A large barn, 26 by 54 feet; a young orchard just coming into bearing, of apples, pears, plums, and cherries. Also, grapes, currants, strawberries, Antwerp raspberries, Lawton blackberries, &c., with a great deal of shrubbery about the place.

Also, a farm of 20¾ acres on the opposite side of the Turnpike. On the premises is a cottage and a tenant house, with a stable for two horses, and a large barn 30 by 60 feet. Will be sold separate or together. For terms, &c., apply to L. BARROW, on the premises.

FOR SALE—A FARM OF FORTY-FIVE ACRES, in the town of North Hempstead, Queens County, belonging to the estate of the late Christopher Heiser. It is pleasantly situated on the shore of Hempstead harbor, nearly opposite Glen Cove, 26 miles from New-York. On the premises are a dwelling, tenant and bath-house, barns and other outbuildings. For terms, &c., apply to W. M. WEEKS, Glen Cove, or to M. S. HEISER, No. 17 State-st., New-York. Possession given immediately.

WANTED—A FARM WORTH FROM $4,000 TO $10,000, of 30 to 50 acres, within two miles of a town on a railroad, and within 40 miles of New-York, with good house and outbuildings. Possession to be given on or before March 15, 1862, for which $5,000 cash will be paid, and balance in valuable New-York City property. Address, stating price, location and means of transportation, with real name, C. O. M., Box 27 Bloomfield, N. J.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.—THE TWO FINE THREE-STORY brick houses, with all modern improvements, No. 35 Lafayette-av. and No. 90 Elliot-place, Brooklyn, will be sold at the Merchants' Exchange, THURSDAY, Dec. 5, at 12 o'clock. Sale positive and terms easy.

COLE & CHILTON, Auctioneers.

FOR SALE—AT A SACRIFICE, THREE FIRST-class, 4-story, brown-stone houses, on the south side of 49th-st., between 4th and 5th avs.; houses, 20x53 feet; lots, 20x100.5 feet; second to none in the City. Inquire of the owner, on the premises; terms easy.

COUNTRY RESIDENCES.

ORANGE, N. J.—FURNISHED AND UNFURnished houses, beautifully situated, one hour from New-York, to let for the season or year; also, country seats, farms and villa sites to rent and for sale low, by HENRY B. BLACKWELL, No. 49 William-st., New-York, 9 to 11 A. M.: No. 49 Main-st., Orange, 1 to 5 P. M.

WISCONSIN OR MINNESOTA IMPROVED farm wanted in exchange for an elegant country seat, with 100 acres, at Morristown, N. J. The buildings are first-class and extensive, and plenty of fruit. S. COCKCROFT, No. 8 Pine-st.

IRON AND HARDWARE.

IRON KEGS AND CANS.—THE METALLIC KEG COMPANY is furnishing iron kegs for paint, printing ink, drugs, &c. They are stronger and lighter than wood; perfectly tight without solder, and ship without packing. Paints and lead put up in this manner can be had at JESSUP & CHILDS', No. 127 Maiden-lane, CHRISTAL & DONOHUE'S, No. 228 Pearl-st., and at other manufacturers.

The cans for kerosene, oil, varnish, &c., from five to forty-five gallons, are stronger and tighter than tin, and in every respect preferable. Apply at the manufactory, Nos. 42 and 44 Greene-st., basement.

DRY GOODS.

SPECIAL NOTICE—LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Great bargains in Ladies' and Children's Garments, PURCHASED OF A FIRM Retiring from the business. Sales will continue this week at 50 PER CENT. BELOW COST.

The articles, consisting of

Misses' Muslin Drawers, Tucked.
Misses' Muslin Drawers, Embroidered.
Ladies' Muslin Drawers, Plain and Embroidered.
Girls' Muslin Chemises and Night-gowns.
Skirts, Waists, Wrappers, Caps, &c., &c.

Will be specially exhibited in the LADIES' and CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

LORD & TAYLOR, Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.

DRESS GOODS FROM AUCTION.

Several large invoices of very choice and FASHIONABLE DRESS GOODS, Purchased at auction, will be offered AT RETAIL, MONDAY, DEC. 2, At 25 per cent. below the cost of importation.

LORD & TAYLOR, Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY, Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST. Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

BARGAINS IN CLOAKS!

FRENCH BEAVER CLOAKS
HEAVY ESQUIMAUX BEAVER CLOAKS,
MOSCOW BEAVER CLOAKS AND WRAPPERS
ELEGANT LYONS VELVET CLOAKS,
(With real Guipure Lace Capes,)
LIONSKIN CLOAKS, &c., &c.,
All new styles, at retail, at low prices.

E. S. MILLS & CO., No. 413 Broadway, near Canal-st.

FURS—FURS—FURS.

MINK, MINK, MINK.

Furs are scarce and getting high. My stock of MINK and ROYAL ERMINE are choice, and SELLING AT REASONABLE PRICES.

J. J. BENSON, No. 310 Canal-st., exactly opposite Mercer.

R. H. MACY

IS NOW OPENING FROM CASH AUCTIONS, Full assortment of Hat Ribbons, at very low prices. Also, Bonnet Velvets, all shades; Bonnet Silks, Velvet Ribbons, Trimming Ribbons, &c.

FRENCH NEEDLEWORK COLLARS, from cash auctions, closing very low.

Also, Needlework Trimmings, Bands, Flouncings, Infants' Waists and Dresses, Embroidered Chemises, Night-Dresses, Corsets, &c.

LACE DRAPERY CURTAINS, from cash auctions.

Also, Drapery, Muslins, Curtain Laces and a complete stock of White Goods.

Ladies' and Gents' Cloth Gloves and Merino Hosiery, from cash auctions, closing very low.

Also, a full assortment of FLEECE-LINED GLOVES and HOSIERY MERINO UNDERWEAR, &c.

FRENCH FLOWERS.

Full stock Head-dresses, Ruches, Children's Hats, &c., closing very low, to make room for stock for the Holidays. R. H. MACY, Nos. 204 and 206 6th-av., Second door below 14th-st.

NOTICE.

CLOSING OUT AN IMPORTER'S STOCK. BLACK FRENCH MERINOS. A TERRIBLE SACRIFICE. 75 per cent. below usual prices.

Splendid goods at 5s. and 6s per yard. Call and see them at W. JACKSON'S Mourning Store, No. 551 Broadway, between Spring and Prince sts.

BUNTING, RED, WHITE AND BLUE, In qualities suitable for army and navy purposes. For sale by FAIRCHILD & FANSHAW, No. 146 Duane-st.

R. H. MACY, SELLS LADIES' DOLLAR KID GLOVES, All colors and sizes, for 63 cents; free by mail, 69 cts. Nos. 204 and 206 6th-av. No connection with any other store in the City.

AT NO. 379 BROADWAY, CORNER OF White-st., a blockaded importer's stock of LADIES' AND GENTS' LINEN CAMBRIC HANDKERCHIEFS AND MEN'S FURNISHING GOODS, is now offered to the public AT RETAIL, at prices never before heard of in this line, and it is hoped never will be again.

$300 worth of Linen Handkerchiefs, embracing every variety of plain, hemstitched and embroidered, for men, women and children, from three cents to $3 each.

Elegant Embroidered Handkerchiefs at prices that will astonish all.

NECK TIES.

An immense stock from 5 to 50 cents each; nothing over 50 cents. Gents' Scarfs, in new and elegant designs, from 12 cents to $1—just one-third the usual prices. Gloves, all kinds, from 12 to 60 cents. Fine Beaver Gloves at 50 cents—same as are sold regularly for $1.

GENTS' LINEN COLLARS.

5,000 dozen of the best three and four ply. Latest styles at $1 20 per dozen or 10 cents each—warranted to be the same as are sold everywhere at $2 or $3. Hosiery, Shirts, Undershirts and Drawers. Traveling Shirts, all at prices that will convince buyers that we are in earnest. Open evenings.

$50,000—BANKRUPT STOCK.—WE OFfer to our customers a large bankrupt stock, which we have just purchased at a great discount from the original cost. This bankrupt stock consists of a full line.

Hosiery and Gloves, Hoop Skirts and Corsets.
Ladies' and Gents' Undergarments of all kinds.
Embroideries and Lace Goods.

Book, Swiss and Cambric Muslins.
Flannels, Paper Cambrics, Towels, &c.
Linen Goods in every variety.

Handkerchiefs for ladies and gentlemen.
Bleached and Brown Cottons, Cashmere Scarfs, &c.
Ribbons, Paris Flowers, Ruches, Bonnets, &c.

Bought by CUSHMAN & BROOKS, at a large discount.

Ladies, you can find bargains by calling at our new store, No. 463 6th-av., corner of 28th-st. CUSHMAN & BROOKS.

ZEPHYR WORSTED, 12 1-2 CENTS; nice fitting corsets, 75 cents; skirts, 50 cents, (best steel.) Also, a large assortment of dress trimmings, velvets, buttons, and small wares, &c. N. B.—Alexander's Gloves. Yarn for soldier's socks at 75c. per pound. At ELGER'S, Nos. 880 and 882 Broadway, near 18th-st., east side.

BARGAINS THIS WEEK.—VELVET BONnets, new styles, at $6, $7 and $8, worth $10 and $12 each. L. BINNS' millinery, largest and cheapest in the world, No. 581 Broadway, up stairs, opposite Metropolitan Hotel. Children's hats, mourning bonnets.

CHOICE FURS. NO. 49 BROADWAY. Opening at retail of an entirely new stock of Sable, Mink, and other choice furs, in the most desirable styles, much below usual prices. S. GOGE, Practical Furrier.

ELEGANT DRAB WOOLLEN VELVET CLOAKS, at the United States Cloak and Mantilla Store, Nos. 304 and 306 Canal-st. W. B. MACKENZIE, Sup't. GEO. CAREY.

TEACHERS.

A YOUNG LADY, WHO HAS TAUGHT IN the first schools of this city, desires an engagement for a few hours daily, in a family or school, to instruct in English, French and music; unexceptionable references given. Address B. T., Visiting Teacher, Madison-square Post-office.

A LADY, A GOOD READER, AND ACCUSTOMED to tuition, would be happy to instruct in English, French and music. References of the highest respectability. Remuneration in board i. agreeable. Address O. P., Madison-square Post-office.

A YOUNG WIDOW LADY, CAPABLE OF instructing young children in French and music, would like to find a suitable place; salary no object; can give first-class references. Address M. B., Madison-square Post-office, for two days.

A TEACHER.—A LADY ACCUSTOMED TO teaching wishes an engagement, either in a family or school, to teach English, French and music; salary moderate; high references; or as companion or as copyist. Address E. O. H., No. 64 Nassau-st., New-York.

TO LET.

TO LET—A TWO-STORY, ATTIC AND BASEment house, with under-cellar, in Bedford-av., near Myrtle-av., Brooklyn. Rent very low. Apply to PETER A. BERT, Real Estate Agent and Auctioneer, No. 352 Grand-st., Williamsburgh.

STEAM-POWER TO LET—AT THE EMPIRE Works, foot of East 24th-st. Rooms, 200x45 feet; engines, 1,000 horse-power. SAMUEL LEGGETT, Superintendent.

TO LET—THE STORE AND LOFTS NO. 9 BAR clay-st., with basement and sub-cellar, 25x75 feet. Apply to L. H. PIQNOLET, North River Bank Building, corner of Greenwich and Dey sts.

TO LET—IN THE STUDIO BUILDING, NO. 15 10th-st., a desirable office for a physician, with bedroom attached. Apply to the Janitor, on the premises.

TO LET—THREE-STORY BRICK HOUSE NO. 99 Powers-st., Brooklyn. Inquire at No. 52 Lafayette-av., Brooklyn, or No. 227 Washington-st., New-York.

FURNISHED HOUSES TO LET.

FURNISHED HOUSE TO LET—IN 22D-ST., near 4th-av., to a small private family only; three-story, high basement, and in perfect order, with 12 rooms. Apply to R. C. READ, No. 58 East 22d-st., from 1 to 3 P. M.

HOUSES & ROOMS WANTED.

WANTED—BY A SMALL FAMILY, PART OF A furnished house, with all the conveniences for housekeeping; family without children preferred; also neat and clean; terms moderate. Address FRANCIS, *Tribune* office.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

AS CHAMBERMAID.—WANTED, BY AN American woman, a situation as chambermaid, or child's nurse; would have no objections to the country, or to travel. Reference given. Please call at No. 152 Charles-st., for two days.

AS CHAMBERMAID.—WANTED BY A PROTestant girl a situation as chambermaid and to assist in the fine washing; best of City references. Can be seen for two days. Apply at 36 Hudson-av., Brooklyn.

AS CHAMBERMAID, &c.—AN ENGLISH Protestant young woman, with two years' City reference, wants a situation as chambermaid and waitress, or to do light housework; a good situation more an object than wages. Inquire at Clinton Hall Employment Society, on Astor-place, near Broadway.

AS CHAMBERMAID, &c.—A SITUATION wanted, by a respectable young woman as chambermaid and washing and ironing; can do up fine clothes in the neatest manner, and is a good waitress; has lived six years in her last place; has the best of City reference. Can be seen at 35 West 13th-st., between 5th and 6th avs.

AS CHAMBERMAID, &c.—WANTED, A SITuation by a young woman, to do chamberwork and fine washing or waiting; would go as regular laundress in a private family; is willing and obliging; has the best of City references. Can be seen for two days at No. 5 Union-court, University-place, near 12th-st.

AS CHAMBERMAID, &c.—WANTED, BY A respectable Protestant young woman, a situation in a genteel private family, to do the chamberwork or to take care of children and sew; has lived seven years in her last place. Call at No. 31 West 12th-st.

AS CHAMBERMAID, &c.—WANTED, BY A Welch girl, a situation as chambermaid or plain sewer; or to do general housework. Apply at No. 283 Broome-st., rear, second floor, for two days.

AS CHAMBERMAID, &c.—WANTED, A SITuation by a young woman to take care of children or would do chamberwork and waiting; can give the best of references. Apply for two days at No. 122 West 26th-st.

AS CHAMBERMAID AND WAITRESS.—Wanted, by an active young woman, a situation as chambermaid and waitress, or would take a chamber-maid's place and do fine washing; has no objection to travel with a family and make herself useful. Has good City reference. Can be seen for two days at No. 13 Union-court, University-place, between 11th and 12th sts.

AS CHAMBERMAID AND WAITRESS.—Wanted, by a Protestant young woman, a situation as chambermaid and waiting; will assist with the children. City references from her two last places. Apply at No. 241 West 17th-st., between 6th and 7th avs.

AS CHAMBERMAID AND WAITRESS.—A situation wanted by a respectable Protestant, as chambermaid and waitress, or as nurse and seamstress. To be seen at her present employer's, No. 16 West 39th-st., for two days.

AS CHAMBERMAID AND WAITRESS.—Wanted, by a young woman, a situation as chambermaid and waitress, or chambermaid and nurse; three years' reference given from her last place. Call at No. 206 9th-av., corner of 24th-st.

AS COOK.—A COMPETENT PROTESTANT WOman wishes a situation as cook; understands cooking in all its branches, meats, game, poultry, desserts, &c.; also understands making good bread, biscuit and pastry; has no objection to assist in the washing. Good reference given. Call at No. 116 West 27th-st., near 7th-av., first floor, room No. 1.

AS COOK.—WANTED, BY A PROTESTANT WOman, a situation as cook; understands cooking in all its branches; is an excellent baker of bread and biscuit; has good City reference; no objection to go to Washington or California. Can be seen for two days at the Protestant Employment Agency, No. 125 4th-av., between 12th and 13th sts.

AS COOK.—A SITUATION WANTED BY A RESpectable woman as good plain cook and excellent washer and ironer; understands milk and butter; thoroughly competent in her business; no objection to go a short distance in the country. Very best of references. Can be seen for two days at No. 108 East 13th-st., first floor, back room.

AS COOK.—WANTED, A SITUATION BY A capable woman as a first-class cook; understands the business in all its branches; is a good baker, and would assist in the washing, and has good City references. Can be seen for two days at No. 13 Union-court, University-place, between 11th and 12th sts.

AS COOK.—WANTED, A SITUATION BY A REspectable Protestant woman as first-class cook in a private family. She is a competent, good cook, and would assist with the washing if required; can give the best of City reference. Inquire at No. 118 West 24th-st., between 6th and 7th avs., over the grocery.

AS COOK.—WANTED, A SITUATION BY A very respectable woman as first-class cook; is thoroughly competent in all its branches, and has twelve years' City reference; none but private families need apply. Can be seen for two days at No. 32 3d-av., near 9th-st., in the store.

AS COOK.—WANTED, BY A RESPECTABLE girl, a situation as competent cook; understands soups, meats, poultry, game, fish, jellies, bread. A situation in a private family preferred. Best of reference. Call at No. 118 West 19th-st., between 6th and 7th avs. Can be seen from 10 to 3 o'clock.

AS COOK.—A SITUATION WANTED BY A RESpectable woman as cook; fully understands taking charge of any kitchen—understands all kinds of baking and all kinds of soups, jellies of all kinds, poultry and game. Very good reference. Can be seen for two days at No. 97 7th-av.

AS COOK.—WANTED A SITUATION BY A RESpectable Protestant woman as cook, &c.; is an excellent cook and baker; is willing to assist in washing and ironing; best City references. Can be seen, for two days, at No. 121 West 20th-st., between 6th and 7th avs.

AS COOK.—AN ENGLISH PROTESTANT WOman desires a situation in the country; understands her business thoroughly in every branch. Apply to CHARLES BOOKHAM, Employment Institute, No. 609 Broadway.

AS COOK.—A SITUATION WANTED, AS GOOD cook and good baker in a private family, by a very respectable woman, who can produce the highest testimonials. Can be seen at No. 359 6th-av., ring private door bell next the jeweler's, near 22d-st.

AS COOK.—WANTED, A SITUATION AS COOK by an English woman, who perfectly understands her business—soups, meats, game, desserts, &c.; has good City reference. Apply at No. 80 West 17th-st., near 6th-av., rear building.

AS COOK.—A SITUATION WANTED BY AN experienced cook; understands all kinds of baking and pastry, and is willing to assist with the washing and ironing if required, and has the best of City reference. Apply at No. 60 West Washington-place.

AS COOK.—WANTED, A SITUATION AS FIRST-class cook in a private family by a respectable woman; thoroughly understands her business in all its branches. Can give best of references. Call at No. 94 West 24th-st., between 6th and 7th avs., for two days.

AS COOK.—WANTED, BY A RESPECTABLE woman, a situation as first-class cook and baker, and understands all kinds of desserts and pastry, if required; has no objection to assist in the washing; can give the best of City reference. Can be seen at No. 205 Greene-st.

AS COOK.—WANTED, BY A COMPETENT Protestant woman a situation as cook and to assist in washing and ironing. Can be seen, for two days, at No. 14 4th-st., near Horatio. Can cook in English style.

AS COOK.—WANTED, A SITUATION B

FINANCIAL.

HEMINWAY, NORWOOD & CO.,
STOCK AND BOND BROKERS,
No. 53 Exchange-place,
Buy and sell for Cash, on Time, Stocks, Bonds and Government Securities, at the Board of Brokers, on commission exclusively.

REMITTANCES TO
ENGLAND, IRELAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES.
Sight drafts in sums from $1 upwards, on the
UNION BANK OF LONDON.
NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND,
NATIONAL BANKING COMPANY, IRELAND,
GOOD EVERYWHERE. Issued by
TAYLOR BROTHERS, BANKERS.
No. 247 BROADWAY, corner Murray-st.
No. 76 WALL, corner Pearl-st.

ORDNANCE OFFICE.

BILLS APPROVED BY MAJOR HAGNER,
FOR
ORDNANCE STORES,
PAYABLE IN WASHINGTON,
Purchased by
TAYLOR BROTHERS, BANKERS,
No. 247 BROADWAY, corner of Murray-st.

WAR CLAIMS.

APPROVED BILLS PAYABLE BY ANY OF THE GOVERNMENT OFFICERS
IN NEW-YORK OR AT WASHINGTON,
Purchased by
TAYLOR BROTHERS, BANKERS,
No. 247 BROADWAY, corner Murray-st.

NAVY AGENCY.

CONTRACTORS AND OTHER CLAIMS,
APPROVED BY NAVY AGENT IN NEW-YORK,
PURCHASED BY
TAYLOR BROTHERS, BANKERS,
No. 247 BROADWAY, corner of Murray-st.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 59 WALL-ST.
ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS
FOR USE IN THIS COUNTRY
AND ABROAD

HARDWARE, METAL AND IRON
BUSINESS PAPER,
Bought and sold at lowest rates, by
F. W. GALLAUDET, Note Broker,
No. 11 Pine-st., near Broadway.

CONTRACTORS' BILLS
For Army and Navy supplies collected cheaply and expeditiously, or purchased on favorable terms, by
LIVERMORE, CLEWS & MASON,
Nos. 41 and 43 Wall-st., New-York

STATE OF CONNECTICUT, TREASURY OFFICE, HARTFORD, Nov. 20, 1861.

SALE OF STATE STOCKS.—SEALED PROPOSALS for the purchase of $1,200,000 of the Bonds of the State of Connecticut will be received at the Office of the Treasurer, in Hartford, until the 20th day of December, at noon, when said proposals will be opened in the presence of such bidders as may choose to attend, and the bonds awarded to the highest bidders.

The proposals must be accompanied with certificates of deposit or certified checks on solvent banks in the States of Connecticut or Massachusetts, or the City of New-York of 4 per cent. of the amount subscribed, to be held as security for the faithful fulfillment of the bid, and returned to the owners on their order.

It is provided that no bid shall be accepted at less than the par value of the bonds, and full payment, in funds current in New-York and Boston, will be required within 30 days after notice of acceptance.

The bonds are in denominations of $100, $500 and $1,000, are dated July 1, 1861, and payable at the Treasurer's Office, in twenty years from date, or at any time after the expiration of 10 years, at the pleasure of the General Assembly, with 6 per cent. coupons attached, payable at the same place in January and July of each year.

This issue completes the $2,000,000 authorized by Act of the General Assembly, at their May Session, and as the State has no public debt, would be met in full by a tax of less than one per cent. on the Grand List of the State.

EZRA DEAN, State Treasurer.
HARTFORD, Nov. 21, 1861.

NOTICE.—THE BANK OF MONTREAL HAVING established an agency at Chicago, is prepared to do a general Banking business, and, in connection therewith, will collect the proceeds of commercial paper at all accessible points throughout the West. Collections in interior points will be at the risk of owners, care being used in selecting the most reliable medium.

CHICAGO, Oct. 16, 1861. E. W. WILLARD, Agent.

Referring to the above, we are prepared to draw, purchase and collect upon Chicago on favorable terms.

We also purchase and collect upon the Canadas, and issue drafts and credits upon the various branches of the Bank of Montreal and the Union Bank of London.

RICHARD BELL and A. OGILVIE,
No. 33 Pine-st.,
Agents for the Bank of Montreal, New-York.

CITY BANK OF BROOKLYN,
Dec. 2, 1861.

AT THE ANNUAL ELECTION, HELD THIS day, Charles Stanton, James Bell, Stranahan, John D. Hooks, Henry Stanton, Samuel Osborne, Anthony P. Ostrom, Henry D. Young, Thomas H. Rodman, Ganet S. Bergen, Cornelius J. Sprague, Seymour Burrell, Peter De Bevoise, Robert F. Perrin, and Smith Faucher, were elected Directors of this Bank for the ensuing year, and Edwin K. Scranton, Charles Condict and John Williams, were elected Inspectors of the next annual election.

At a subsequent meeting of Directors, Charles Stanton was unanimously elected President, and Samuel Osborne, Vice-President. A. G. ALLEN, Cashier.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE holders of the River Line Bonds, Income Bonds, Dividend Bonds, and Bills Payable, of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad Company, who wish to avail themselves of the terms proposed by the Company, that the books will remain open for the purpose of making exchanges, until Dec. 21, 1861. The new Mortgage Bonds of the Company will be delivered in exchange for the above mentioned securities at any time before the day specified, by H. C. Kingsley, at No. 25 William-st., New-York and at the office of the Company in Cleveland, Ohio.

J. N. McCULLOUGH, President.

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD CO.,
NEW-YORK, Oct. 29, 1861.

HOLDERS OF THE STOCK OF THIS Company, as registered upon the books of the company at the close of business on the 15th day of January, 1862, will be entitled to Canceled Bonds Scrip for five dollars upon each share of stock held by them deliverable on or after the 1st day of February next; and parties holding certificates are hereby notified to have the same registered in their own names on or before the said 15th day of January.

THOMAS E. WALKER, Treasurer.

HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD COMPANY. Tenders for the sale of $33,000 Second Mortgage Sinking Fund Bonds of this Company will be received up to the 16th of December inst. by the undersigned Commissioners of the Sinking Fund for the extinguishment of the Second Mortgage Bonds of this Company. Tenders may be made for the whole or any portion of this sum.

SAMUEL SLOAN,
EDWARD JONES,
J. B. JOHNSTON.

OFFICE OF THE NEW-YORK CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY.—ALBANY, Nov. 1, 1861.—The annual election for Directors of this Company, and for three Inspectors for the next election, will be held at the office of the company, in the Exchange, in the city of Albany, on the second WEDNESDAY (the 11th) of December next. The poll will be opened at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and will continue open for two hours thereafter. By order of the Board of Directors.

JOHN V. L. PRUYN, Secretary *pro tem.*

THE NEW-YORK CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY.—TREASURER'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Nov. 25, 1861.—The Transfer Books of this Company will be closed at the close of business on Wednesday, the 4th day of December next, preparatory to the Annual Election for Directors of the Company, appointed to be held on the 11th day of December next, and will be reopened on the morning of Thursday, the 12th day of December next. JOHN V. L. PRUYN, Treasurer pro tem.

NOTICE.—THE INTEREST ON THE FIFTH Mortgage Bonds of the New-York and Erie Railroad Company which becomes due on the first day of December, 1861, will be paid on and after MONDAY, the second day of December next, on presentation of the Coupons at the office of the Receiver. NATHANIEL MARSH, Receiver.
NEW-YORK, Nov. 29, 1861.

OFFICE OF THE HOWARD INSURANCE COMPANY,
NEW-YORK, Nov. 27, 1861.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of ten (10) per cent. upon the Capital Stock of the Company, payable at the office, No. 66 Wall-st., on and after MONDAY, Dec. 2, 1861. HENRY A. OAKLEY, Secretary.

NEW-YORK AND NEW-HAVEN RAILROAD COMPANY,
Corner 4th-av. and 27th-st., Treasurer's
Office, Nov. 30, 1861.

THE INTEREST DUE ON THE BONDS of this Company Dec. 1, 1861, will be paid on presentation of the Coupons at this office, or at the Bank of the Republic. W. BEMENT, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 6 WALL-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 3, 1861.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared an interest dividend of (4) four per cent., payable on demand. R. W. BLEECKER, Secretary.

APPROVED BILLS FOR SUPPLIES FURNished the War and Navy Departments cashed by
JOHN B. MURRAY,
No. 39 Nassau-st., opposite the Post-office.

COLLECTIONS IN WASHINGTON, D. C.—Claims on any of the Departments, Quartermasters' accounts, and Notes payable in Washington, D. C., collected with promptness and on reasonable terms by
RIGGS & CO., No. 55 Wall-st.

MERCHANTS' BANK, NEW-YORK, NOV. 25, 1861.—This Institution has declared a semi-annual dividend of Three per Cent., payable on and after Monday, the second day of December next.
J. D. VERMILYE, Cashier.

INCOME BONDS BUFFALO STATE LINE RAILROAD COMPANY cashed by H. T. MORGAN & CO., William-st., at 95 cents

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOciation in aid of the Orphans of Negro Mission (Canada) will be held THIS MORNING, (Wednesday,) in the Baptist Tabernacle, 2d-av., at 12 o'clock. Addresses may be expected from Dr. HAGUE, Dr. GILLETTE, and Dr. LAWSON.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE RELIEF OF RESPECTABLE AND AGED INDIGENT FEMALES will hold their Forty-eighth Annual Meeting at the Asylum, No. 130 East 20th-st., on THURSDAY, Dec. 5, at 3 o'clock. The Report will be read, and addresses delivered.

WANTED TO PURCHASE—A RETAIL STOCK of hardware and house furnishing goods in this City. Location must be good; for a desirable stock and location, cash will be paid. Address, for two days, J. A. B., Box No. 2,073 Post-office.

MEDICAL.

AFFLICTED RESTORED! IGNORANCE EXPOSED! FALLACIES UNMASKED!
HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO BOTH SEXES, married or single, in health or disease. DR. LARMONT'S Paris, London and New-York Medical Adviser and Marriage Guide. (50th edition, 400 pages, 100 Anatomical Illustrations,) upon Mental and Nervous Debility, Loss of Memory, Incapacity, Urinary Deposits, Involuntary Loss of Semen, nights, with the urine, or at stool; Impotency, Affections of the Bladder and Kidneys, Strictures, Gleet, Gonorrhœa, Syphilis, primary and constitutional, &c.

Among its contents is the anatomy of the sexual organs of the male and female—all their diseases and weaknesses; latest discoveries in reproduction; European hospital practice; quacks, advertisers, their recipes and specifics; the author's unequaled Paris and London treatment, &c.

All who would avoid unsuccessful and barbarous treatment with Mercury, Copaiba, Injections, Cauterizations, Quack Specifics, Antidotes, Instruments, &c., should purchase this valuable work, for $1, of RICHARDSON, No. 1 Vesey-st.; ROSS & TOUSEY, No. 121 Nassau-st.; H. DEXTER & CO., No. 113 Nassau-st., New-York; and DE WITT, No. 13 Frankfort-st.; or consult the Doctor, at No. 647 Broadway, (up stairs,) New-York, from 9 A. M. to 9 P. M.

"We concur with other papers in recommending Dr. LARMONT and his work."—*Courier des Etat Unis, German Die Reform, Dispatch, Staats Zeitung, National Democrat, Atlas, Medical Review, &c.*

NERVOUS AND SPECIAL DISEASES, MARRIAGE, &c.
By C. D. HAMMOND, M. D., Ex-Professor of Special Pathology in the Syracuse Medical College, New-York. Price $1. GODFREY, Bookseller, No. 831 Broadway, or of the author, at No. 656 Broadway.

TRIESEMAR.—PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETters patent of England, and secured by the seals of the Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. TRIESEMAR No. 1 is the effectual remedy for RELAXATION, SPERMATORRHŒA and EXHAUSTION OF THE SYSTEM. TRIESEMAR No. 2 completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders for which Copaiva and Cubebs have generally been thought an antidote, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population. TRIESEMAR No. 3 is the great and sure remedy of the civilized world for all impurities of the system, as well as secondary symptoms; obviating the destructive use of Mercury, as well as other deleterious ingredients, and which all the Sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. They are in the form of a lozenge, and may lie on the toilet table without their use being suspected. Sold in tin cases at $3 each, or four $3 cases in one for $9, and in $27 cases, thus saving $9, as administered by Valpeau, Lallemand, Roux, &c., &c. Wholesale and retail by Dr. H. A. BARROW, No. 194 Bleecker-st., (four doors from Macdougal-st.,) New-York. Immediately on receipt of remittance, forwarded to any part of the world. Attendance and consultation from 11 to 2, and from 4 till 8 in the evening, and on Sunday till 11. Triesemar can also be obtained, by authority of Dr. Barrow, from

WELLS & CO., No. 115 Franklin-st., New-York,
And J. WORTHINGTON, No. 206 Fulton-st., Brooklyn.

DR. HOMER BOSTWICK WILL CONTINUE the practice of his profession, and give especial attention to Operative Surgery, Diseases of the Throat, Consumption, Female Complaints and Nervous Debility, (Impotency,) caused by youthful indiscretion. Mr. B.'s book on this latter subject, with hints to young men and women, before or after marriage, is of vital importance to them, and every young man in the land should possess this valuable book.—*From the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.* Price $1. It may be had at his office, No. 35 East 12th-st., six doors west of Broadway, or at RICHARDSON'S bookstore, No. 1 Vesey-st., and at GODFREY'S, No. 831 Broadway. Office hours from 8 until 12 A. M., and from 6 to 8 P. M.

DR. COBBETT, MEMBER OF THE N. Y. University, (Medical College,) and Royal College of Surgeons, London, has removed from No. 19 Duane-st., to his present very convenient suite of offices at No. 20 Centre-st., between Chambers and Reade sts., with a private entrance at No. 6 City Hall-place, where he can be consulted with the most honorable confidence on all diseases affecting the urinary organs; thirty years in his present specialty, (three of which have been at the Hospitals of this City,) enable him to guarantee a cure in every case undertaken, or make no charge. Strictures of the urethra, impotency, seminal weaknesses, &c., treated on the most scientific principles. N. B.—As a proof of Dr. C.'s qualifications, he would call special attention to his Diplomas, which can be seen in his office.

DR. COOPER, NO. 14 DUANE-ST., MAY BE confidently consulted on all diseases of a private nature. A practice of 30 years, devoted to the treatment and cure of Syphilitic, Mercurial, and diseases of a delicate nature, enables Dr. C. to make speedy and permanent cures, no matter of how long standing the case may be. Strictures of the urethra and seminal weakness, brought on by secret habits, effectually cured. The victims of misplaced confidence, who have been misled by quack advertisements, can call on Dr. C. with the certainty of being radically cured. N. B.—Dr. C. is a qualified physician and surgeon, and a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New-York. Office hours from 8 A. M. to 9 P. M.

IMPORTANT TO THE MARRIED AND THOSE ABOUT TO BE MARRIED.—Dr. A. M. MAURICEAU, Professor of Diseases of Women, has just published the 86th edition of his valuable book, entitled "THE MARRIED WOMAN'S PRIVATE MEDICAL COMPANION," strictly intended for those whose health or circumstances forbid a too rapid increase of family. Price $1. Sold at his office, No. 129 Liberty-st., New-York; or can be sent by mail free of postage, to any part of the United States and Canada, by inclosing $1, and addressing Box No. 1,224 New-York City. For sale by H. RICHARDSON, at No. 1 Vesey-st., (Astor House,) and No. 18 Ann-st.

A PHYSIOLOGICAL VIEW OF MARRIAGE—Containing nearly 300 pages and 150 fine plates and engravings of the anatomy of the sexual organs in a state of health and disease; with a treatise on self-abuse, its deplorable consequences upon the mind and body, with the author's plan of treatment—the only rational and successful mode of cure, as shown by the report of cases treated. A truthful adviser to the married and those contemplating marriage, who entertain doubts of their physical condition. Sent free of postage to any address, on receipt of 25 cents in specie or postage-stamps, by addressing Dr. LA CROIX, Albany, N. Y.

THE CONFESSIONS AND EXPERIENCE OF AN INVALID.—Published for the benefit and as a warning to young men who suffer from nervous debility, premature decay, &c., supplying the means of self-cure. By one who cured himself after being put to great expense through medical imposition and quackery. Single copies may be had of the author, NATHANIEL MAYFAIR, Esq., Bedford, Kings County, N. Y., by inclosing a post-paid address and envelope.

THE RICORD OF AMERICA IS UNDOUBTedly Dr. POWERS, who has treated and cured more cases of secret diseases than almost any other physician living. His CELEBRATED FEMALE PILLS and other great remedies, price $1, are unequaled for curing certain diseases. All trying them are almost immediately restored. Office, No. 12 Laight-st. Call, send or write. All communications confidential. Preventives, $3 per dozen.

THE MOTHERS' PERPETUAL CALENDAR AND LADIES' CIRCULAR.—Important to ladies who may require competent medical advice and would avoid quackery. Mailed, letter form, on receipt of 25 cents, or equivalent in stamps. Also, DUBOIS' French Female Panaces, Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Price $1, $2 and $3. To be had only of Dr. THIERS, No. 62 6th-av., New-York.

EDWARD H. DIXON, M. D., EDITOR OF the Scalpel, and Operating and Consulting Surgeon, No. 42 5th-av. Office consultations on the more obscure diseases of the pelvic viscera, fistulæ, piles, varicocele, and fistula, radically cured without the knife or ligature. Office hours from 8 to 9, 1 to 3, and 7 to 9 evenings. Consultation fee, $5.

A PERFECT CURE IS GUARANTEED.—A radical cure is always effected by Dr. WARD, who cures, besides, in half the usual time and at half the charge of his office for the protection and effectual treatment of those suffering under certain diseases, is at No. 12 Laight-st., where he continually attends, and will be found a friend and qualified physician to all applying.

IMPORTANT TO FEMALES.—DR. WARD'S Great Benefactor. The greatest periodical remedy ever discovered. Infallible for the immediate removal of monthly obstructions. Office No. 12 Laight-st., where Dr. WARD can be consulted confidentially day or evening.

IMPORTANT TO FEMALES.—EXCLUSIVE treatment of diseases of females. Patients from a distance provided with private board, nursing, &c. Remedy for monthly derangements, from $1 to $5. Relief guaranteed. Dr. THIERS, No. 62 6th-av., New-York.

HO, YOUNG MAN!—YOU CAN NEVER BE cured by medicine. What you need is information. Knowledge is power. Read a tract I will send you for a dime, (no stamps,) and learn how you may avoid ruin without a doctor. LA ROY SUNDERLAND, Boston, Mass.

DR. HUNTER'S RED DROP CURES CERtain diseases when regular treatment and all other remedies fail; cures without dieting, or restriction in the habits of the patient; cures without the disgusting or sickening effects of all other remedies; cures in new cases in less than six hours. It roots out the poisonous taint the blood is sure to absorb unless this remedy is used. It is $1 a vial, and cannot be obtained genuine anywhere but at the old office, No. 3 Division-st., New-York City. The only place it can be had genuine. $1 per vial, with a book.

INSURANCE.

CONTINENTAL
INSURANCE COMPANY,
CITY OF NEW-YORK.

Office, No. 102 Broadway, between Wall and Pine sts.
Stock Capital, (all paid in,).....$500,000
Assets, Nov. 1, 1861.....1,047,436
Liabilities.....14,550

Insures Buildings, Merchandise, Household Furniture, Rents, Leases, and other insurable property, at the lowest rates consistent with security, and divides

THREE-FOURTHS OF THE NET PROFITS

of the business annually to holders of its policies, in scrip bearing interest.

1st Dividend to customers, July 9, 1857, 33⅓ per cent.
2d " " " 5, '58, 50 "
3d " " " 14, '59, 50 "
4th " " " 12, '60, 45 "
5th " " " 5, '61, 35 "

GEORGE T. HOPE, Pres.
H. H. LAMPORT, Sec.
CYRUS PECK, Assist. Sec.

COAL.

COAL.—LOCUST MOUNTAIN, PEACH ORCHARD and Lehigh, warranted to be genuine articles. Also, Liverpool Orrel and English house Cannel of the first qualities—all at the lowest market prices.

HENRY REEVE,
Corner Canal and Centre and corner Jane and West sts

STATIONERY.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST INK.
AMERICAN UNION INK, jet black, flows freely, and does not corrode. Sold at No. 5 Ludlow-st., and at the stationers generally. JESSE G. REYS.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

BREWSTER & CO.'S
CELEBRATED CARRIAGES AND ROAD WAGONS,
Corner Broome and Mott sts., New-York.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT the office of the Deputy Quartermaster-General, United States Army, No. 1,139 Girard-st., Philadelphia, until 12 o'clock M., on the 5th of December next, for furnishing one hundred four-wheeled ambulances, known as the Tripler pattern, to be indorsed "Proposals for furnishing Tripler Ambulances."

AMBULANCE (Body.)

Sills 11 feet long, out to out, (including foot-board,) 3¼ inches wide by 2½ inches deep. The foot-board is 11¾ inches wide, made of 1-inch stuff, and fastened on the sills by 3½-inch bolts at each end. The sills are made at front end so as to incline the foot-board upwards. There are eight studs on each side, 1¾ inches square; sides are solid panels of ⅞-inch boards, 30 inches high (with middle rail) from top of sill to top of rail on panels. There is a top rail about 4½ inches above; this rail is fastened to the studs. The body is 8 feet 9½ inches in length in the clear, from outside of tail-piece to box in front, and 4 feet wide in the clear, front, or head-board, 15 inches high, 5 feet high in centre from floor to ridge pole, and top made oval, 6 bows 2x⅞ inches, fastened to rails and studs with screws outside.

In second lower panel or 2 feet from front on each side, there is a wicket door 8½ inches wide and 14½ inches long. This door is made to slide in a groove on inside; the seat for driver is made of the lid of box with cushion; the box is 18 inches wide, 11½ inches in the clear, with partition in the middle; the lazy back is fastened to the lid of box, plain hand lock on side, to which is attached an iron rod or lever alongside of body; to the lever is a strap by which the driver locks the wagon.

A middle bar 3¼x2½ inches is bolted on sills, for the hindside spring, 2 braces on tail end of body reaching from tail-piece to top rail.

Framework of body to be of best white oak timber thoroughly seasoned, the bows to be of white ash; panels to be of poplar thoroughly seasoned.

Curtains to be strapped, straps to be sewed on with harness thread well waxed.

SPRINGS OF AMBULANCE.

Springs to be best quality spring steel. Back spring 4 feet 2 inches long from centre to centre; side springs back 3 feet 10 inches centre to centre; front back spring 4 feet 2 inches centre to centre; the cross springs are 2¾ inches wide, 7 plates; the side springs 2¾ inches wide by 6 plates; side springs front 3 feet 10 inches long centre to centre.

Axles of iron, to be case-hardened, 1¾ square, turned edgewise, with nuts on ends. Boxes 8½ long, 1¾x1¾ inches.

Hubs of gum or locust thoroughly seasoned; the spokes and felloes to be of white oak thoroughly seasoned.

Hind wheels 4 feet 8 inches high, without the tire, hubs 7½x10 inches, spokes 1¾x2 inches at the shoulders, tire 2 inches wide and ¾ inch thick, felloes 2½ inches deep.

Front wheels 3 feet 8 inches high, without the tire, hubs 7¼x10 inches, spokes 2x1¾ inches at the shoulder, felloes 2½ inches deep.

Hounds and half hounds, to be of white oak, of best quality, and without defects. Half hounds, 2 feet long; 5th wheel. 2 feet diameter, 1½ inches x½ inch.

Whole hounds, 4 feet 4 inches long; 3 cross-bars on 5th wheel, 2 inches square; cross bar on front hounds 4 feet 8 inches long, the steps on each side are fastened to this cross bar.

Double trees, 4 feet long, ironed, same as those of *omnibuses*, as is also the whole running gear, the double trees, and lead tree to be of white hickory, without defects, and thoroughly seasoned.

Tongue, 10 feet 6 inches long, 4 inch x2½ inch at front of jaws of hounds, and tapers to 2¼ inches square at back end; at front end it tapers to 1¾ inches round; a hook with eye in it goes on top of tongue to attach lead bar for lead horses; lead bar, same length as double trees, made light; tongue to be of white oak, of the best quality, and free from defects.

LITTER OF AMBULANCE.

feet 7½ inches long, 1 foot 10 inches wide; panels, 4½ inches wide, 1¼ inches thick, of poplar, and has a solid bottom; mattress is made of heavy oil-cloth, stuffed with best quality curled horse hair; the cover of litters is fastened to panels of litter by a leather binding, and locked all around; in each frame of litter there are to be sixteen mattrass springs; cross stripe to be made of best quality oak.

The framework for upper litters is composed of three cross strips, one on each end and one in the middle; one cross-piece on top, on each side, and two in the middle for tracks to run the litter in on; the tracks are made in the bottom as well as the upper, 2½-inch iron, and extend the whole length of body from inside of tail-piece; there are three rollers on each side of litter frame, with flange, same as regular railroad car wheels.

There are 4 litters for each wagon; 4 small pillows and 2 cushions, one for driver and one for back seat; on each side of litter frame there is an iron handle, made to slip in and out; these handles are let in, level with the litter frame, 21 inches long, made to come out, say 15 inches, without being checked.

There is also a hook in each end of the frame to keep it in place, when in the body, and fastens to a staple in the floor, let in so as to be nearly level; upper litters the same; the staple is put in the front and across bar.

Tail-board to be made of ash, 15 inches wide, by full 1-inch stuff, and when down, rest on joint hinges, forming a foot-board, supported, when down, by a leather strap 2 inches wide, which goes around the tail-piece at each end, between the panel and the braces; when up, it forms the tail-board.

A movable seat goes in body, back of litters, made of 1-inch boards, and end-pieces; the bottom is 18 inches wide, and board to form lazy back, 15 inches high; this has a cushion; the tail-board is fastened, when up, by hooks, secured to middle rail.

Each side of the body of the ambulance to be mark d U S, all other parts to be lettered U. S.

It is agreed and distinctly understood that the ambulances are to be so constructed that the several parts of any one ambulance will agree and exactly fit those of any other, so as to require no numbering or arranging for putting together; and all the materials used for their construction to be of the best quality; all the wood thoroughly seasoned, and the work, in all its parts, faithfully executed in the best workmanlike manner.

The work may be inspected, from time to time as it progresses, by an officer or agent of the Quartermaster's Department, and none of it shall be painted until it shall have been inspected and approved by said officer or agent authorized to inspect it. When finished, painted, and accepted, by an officer or agent of the Quartermaster's Department, and delivered as herein agreed, they shall be paid for.

The ambulances are to be delivered in Philadelphia, if desired by the Quartermaster's Department.

G. H. CROSMAN,
Deputy Quartermaster-General.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, CORNER OF GRAND AND ELM STS.—NEW-YORK, Nov. 30, 1861.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED at this office until the 14th day of December next, at 4 o'clock P. M., at which time said proposals will be considered, for supplying the public schools under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education, with books, stationery, and other articles required for the use of said schools, for one year, commencing on the first of January, 1862. A list of the articles will be furnished on application to the Clerk of the Board of Education.

JOHN DAVENPORT,
JAMES MACKEAN,
RICHARD WARREN,
JOHN O'KEEFE,
C. GODFREY GUNTHER,
Committee on Supplies.

RAILROADS.

NEW-YORK, HARLEM & ALBANY R. R.
FOR ALBANY, TROY, NORTH AND WEST.
Winter Arrangement, commencing Monday, Nov. 4, 1861.
For Albany—10:30 A. M. Express Mail Train, from 26th-st. depôt.
For all local trains, see time-table.
JOHN BURCHILL, Ass't. Sup't.

NEW-YORK AND ERIE RAILROAD.—Passenger trains from foot of Chambers-st., as follows, viz: 7 A. M., Express, for Buffalo; 8:15 A. M., Mail; 9:15 A. M., Milk, daily; 11 A. M., Accommodation, daily; 3:30 P. M., Way, for Middletown, Newburgh and intermediate stations; 5 P. M., Night Express daily, for Dunkirk, Buffalo, Canandaigua, and principal stations. The train of Saturday runs through to Buffalo, but does not run to Dunkirk. 7 P. M., Accommodation.
CHAS. MINOT, General Superintendent.
NATHANIEL MARSH, Receiver.

HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.—FOR ALBANY, TROY, THE NORTH AND WEST. Trains leave:

FROM CHAMBERS-ST.	FROM THIRTIETH-ST.
Express, 7 and 11 A. M., and 3:30 and 5 P. M.	7:25, 11:30 A. M., and 3:58 and 5:30 P. M.
Troy and Albany, (with sleeping car,) 10:15 P. M.	10:45 P. M. (Sundays included.)

RARITAN AND DELAWARE BAY RAILROAD, FOR LONG BRANCH, SHREWSBURY, SQAN, TOMS RIVER, &c.—On and after Monday, Oct. 28, the NAUSHON will leave New-York at 3 P. M., connecting at Port Monmouth with cars for the above places. Returning, Express train will leave Bergen at 6:50 A. M., and Long Branch at 7:25 A. M. Freight train leaves Bergen at 12½ P. M.

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD—CHANGE OF TERMINUS.—Leave James-slip and 34th-st. Ferries, New-York, at 9:30 A. M., for Greenport; 9:30 A. M. and 3:30 P. M. for North Islip, and Saturday to Yaphank; 9:30 A. M. and 3:30 P. M. for Syosset; 9:30 A. M., and 3:30 and 5 P. M. for Hempstead; 9:30 A. M., 3:30, 5 and 6 P. M. for Jamaica. Trains leave Hunter's Point on arrival of boat from James-slip.

NORTHERN RAILROAD OF NEW-JERSEY.—Trains leave Jersey City for Piermont at 9:15 A. M. and 12:05, 4:25 and 6:05 P. M.; for Munsey at 4:25 P. M., and for Sufferns at 9:15 A. M. T. W. DEMAREST, Supt.

STEAMBOATS.

SHREWSBURY—NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER—HIGHLANDS, PORT WASHINGTON, MOUNT'S AND BROWN'S DOCK, FAIRHAVEN AND RED BANK.—The new and splendid steamer, HIGHLAND LIGHT, Capt. H. B. PARKER, will run as follows, from foot of Robinson-st., North River:

LEAVE NEW-YORK.	LEAVE RED BANK.
Monday,* Nov. 25, 2 P. M.	Monday, Nov. 25, 8 A. M.
Tuesday, Nov. 26, 9½ A. M.	Tuesday,* Nov. 26, 8 A. M.
Tuesday,* Nov. 26, 2 P. M.	Tuesday, Nov. 26, 1½ P. M.
Wednesday, Nov. 27, 10 A. M.	Wednesday,* Nov. 27, 9 A. M.
Wednesday,* Nov. 27, 2 P. M.	Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2 P. M.
Thursday, Nov. 28, 11 A. M.	Thursday,* Nov. 28, 2 P. M.
Friday,* Nov. 29, 2 P. M.	Friday, Nov. 29, 12½ P. M.
Saturday, Nov. 30, 2 P. M.	Saturday,* Nov. 30, 2 P. M.
Monday,* Dec. 2, 2½ P. M.	Monday, Dec. 2, 8 A. M.
Tuesday, Dec. 3, 9 A. M.	Tuesday,* Dec. 3, 8 A. M.
Wednesday,* Dec. 4, 10 A. M.	Wednesday, Dec. 4, 8 A. M.
Thursday, Dec. 5, 10½ A. M.	Thursday,* Dec. 5, 8 A. M.
Friday,* Dec. 6, 12 M.	Friday, Dec. 6, 8 A. M.
Saturday, Dec. 7, 12 M.	Saturday,* Dec. 7, 12 M.
Monday,* Dec. 9, 1:40 P. M.	Monday, Dec. 9, 8 A. M.
Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2 P. M.	Tuesday,* Dec. 10, 8½ A. M.
Wednesday,* Dec. 11, 2 P. M.	Wednesday, Dec. 11, 10½ A. M.

The LAURA will connect for Ocean House, Pleasure Bay and Long Branch, five minutes before HIGHLAND LIGHT.

Fare to Eatontown and Shrewsbury, by H. Johnson's stages and steamers, 35 cents through. Tickets on the boat. Days marked thus,* steamer Long Branch.

NIGHT BOAT TO NEW-HAVEN.—THE TRAVELER leaves at 11 P. M., arriving in time for morning trains. CONTINENTAL leaves at 3 P. M. Train for Meriden and Hartford leaves New-Haven at 11 P. M.

MATRIMONIAL.

TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.—A middle-aged gentleman, of good standing, with ample means at his disposal, wishes to open a correspondence with an accomplished lady, of good family, with a view to matrimony, not under 18 nor over 26 years old. Address, with sincerity, M. REYNOLDS, Box No. 32 Union-square Post-office; references given and required.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS.

PASSPORTS.—All persons leaving the United States will require to have passports from the authorities of their respective countries, countersigned by the Secretary of State, at Washington

FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL.
Chief Cabin Passage.....$130
Second Cabin Passage.....75

FROM BOSTON TO LIVERPOOL.
Chief Cabin Passage.....$110
Second Cabin Passage.....60

Ships from New-York call at Cork Harbor.
The ships from Boston call at Halifax and Cork Harbor
PERSIA, Capt. Judkins. | AFRICA, Capt. Shannon.
ARABIA, Capt. J. Stone. | CANADA, Capt. J. Leitch.
ASIA, Capt. E. G. Lott. | AMERICA, Capt. Hockley
AUSTRALASIAN, Capt. Cook. | NIAGARA, Capt. Moodie.
EUROPA, Capt. Anderson.
SCOTIA, (now building.)

These vessels carry a clear white light at mast-head green on starboard bow and on port bow.
NIAGARA, Moodie, leaves Boston, Wednesday, Nov. 27.
ASIA, Lott, leaves New-York, Wednesday, Dec. 4.
CANADA, Muir, leaves Boston, Wednesday, Dec. 11.
AFRICA, Shannon, leaves New-York, Wednesday, Dec. 18.
EUROPA, Anderson, leaves Boston, Wednesday, Dec. 25.
Berths not secured until paid for.
An experienced Surgeon on board.
The owners of these ships will not be accountable for Gold, Silver, Bullion, Specie, Jewelry, Precious Stones or Metals, unless bills of lading are signed therefor and the value thereof therein expressed. For freight or passage, apply to

E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling-green.

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS FOR EUROPE.

By order of the Secretary of State, all passengers leaving the United States are required to provide themselves with passports before they will be allowed on board the steamer.

Passengers will not be subjected to any trouble or delay in procuring them if they call for instructions at the Company's Offices, No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

JOHN G. DALE, Agent.

STEAM WEEKLY BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL.—Landing and embarking passengers at Queenstown, Ireland. The Liverpool, New-York and Philadelphia Steamship Company intend dispatching their full-powered Clyde-built Iron Steamships as follows:

CITY OF MANCHESTER.....SATURDAY, Dec. 7
CITY OF BALTIMORE.....SATURDAY, Dec. 14
KANGAROO.....SATURDAY, Dec. 21

And every SATURDAY, at noon, from Pier No. 44 North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

First Cabin	$75	Steerage	$30
First Cabin to London	80	Steerage to London	33
First Cabin to Paris	85	Steerage to Paris	38
First Cabin to Hamburg	85	Steerage to Hamburg	38

Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Bremen, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at equally low rates.

Persons wishing to bring out their friends can buy tickets here at the following rates, to New-York: From Liverpool or Queenstown, First Cabin, $75, $85 and $105. Steerage from Liverpool, $40. From Queenstown, $30.

These Steamers have superior accommodations for passengers, and carry experienced Surgeons. They are built in water-tight iron sections, and have patent fire annihilators on board.

For further information apply, in Liverpool, to WILLIAM INMAN, Agent, No. 22 Water-st.; in Glasgow to WM. INMAN, No. 5 St. Enoch-square; in Queenstown to C. & W. D. SEYMOUR & CO.; in London to EIVES & MACEY, No. 61 Gracechurch-st.; in Paris to CHARLES DECOUE, No. 5 Place de la Bourse; in Philadelphia to JOHN G. DALE, No. 111 Walnut-st., or at the Company's Offices.

JOHN G. DALE, Agent, No. 15 Broadway, N. Y.

FOR HAVANA, VIA NASSAU, N. P.—THE British and North American Royal Mail Steamship KARNAK, Capt. ——, for Matanzas, will sail for the above ports, from the Company's wharf at Jers

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

[Continued from First Page.]

chase of a large quantity of machinery already finished, which, when put in operation, will enable this establishment to produce during the next year, 200,000 stand of the justly-celebrated Springfield rifles. I respectfully suggest the recommendation of a liberal appropriation by Congress for the purpose of yet further increasing the capacity of this Armory, believing that it can be made sufficient to supply all the muskets and rifles which the Government may hereafter need in any contingency. Located in a healthful country, in the midst of an industrious and ingenious people, where competent workmen can always be obtained without difficulty, and sufficiently near to all the materials needed in the manufacture of arms, it is at the same time accessible to every part of the country by water and railway communication.

After having made contracts for arms with the private establishments in this country, it was deemed necessary by the President, to insure a speedy and ample supply, to send a special agent to Europe with funds to the amount of $3,000,000 to purchase more. I am gratified to state that he has made arrangements for a large number of arms, part of which have already been delivered. The remainder will be shipped by successive steamers until all shall have been received.

Combinations among manufacturers, importers and agents for the sale of arms, have, in many cases, caused an undue increase in prices. To prevent advantage being thus taken of the necessities of the Government, Collectors of Customs have been directed to deliver to the agents of the United States all arms and munitions that may be imported into this country.

The demand for arms has called into existence numerous establishments for their manufacture throughout the loyal portion of the country, and it has been the policy of this Department to encourage the development of the capital, enterprise and skill of our people in this direction. The Government should never have less than a million of muskets in its arsenals, with a corresponding proportion of arms and equipments for artillery and cavalry. Otherwise it may, at a most critical moment, find itself deficient in guns, while having an abundance of men.

I recommend that application be made to Congress for authority to establish a national foundry for the manufacture of heavy artillery at such point as may afford the greatest facilities for the purpose. While a sufficient number of cannon, perhaps, could be procured from private manufactories, the possession of a national establishment would lead to experiments which would be useful to the country, and prevent imposition in prices by the accurate knowledge that would be acquired of the real value of work of this character.

REORGANIZATION OF THE MILITIA.

In my last report I called attention to the fact that legislation was necessary for the reorganization, upon a uniform basis, of the Militia of the country. Some general plan should be provided by Congress in aid of the States, by which our Militia can be organized, armed and disciplined, and made effective at any moment for immediate service. If thoroughly trained in time of peace, when occasion demands, it may be converted into a vast army, confident in its discipline, and unconquerable in its patriotism. In the absence of any general system of organization, upwards of 700,000 men have already been brought into the field; and, in view of the alacrity and enthusiasm that have been displayed, I do not hesitate to express the belief that no combination of events can arise in which this country will not be able not only to protect itself, but, contrary to its policy, which is peace with all the world, to enter upon aggressive operations against any Power that may intermeddle with our domestic affairs. A Committee should be appointed by Congress, with authority to sit during the recess, to devise and report a plan for the general organization of the Militia of the United States.

FRONTIER DEFENCES.

It is of great importance that immediate attention should be given to the condition of our fortifications upon the seaboard and the Lakes, and upon our exposed frontiers. They should at once be placed in perfect condition for successful defence. Aggressions are seldom made upon a nation ever ready to defend its honor and to repel insults; and we should show to the world, that while engaged in quelling disturbances at home, we are able to protect ourselves against attacks from abroad.

MILITARY ACADEMY.

I earnestly recommend that immediate provision be made for increasing the corps of Cadets to the greatest capacity of the Military Academy. There are now only 192 cadets at that important institution. I am assured by the Superintendent that 400 can at present be accommodated, and that, with very trifling additional expense, this number may be increased to five hundred. It is not necessary, at this late day, to speak of the value of educated soldiers. While, in time of war or rebellion, we must ever depend mainly upon our militia and volunteers, we shall always need thoroughly trained officers. Two classes having been graduated during the present year, in order that the service might have the benefit of their military education, I had hoped that Congress, at its extra session, would authorize an increase of the number. Having failed to do so, I trust that at the approaching session an increase will be authorized, and that the selection of cadets will be limited exclusively to those States which, cooperating cordially with the Government, have brought their forces into the field to aid in the maintenance of its authority.

COL. THAYER.

In this connexion, justice requires that I should call attention to the claims of a veteran officer, to whom, more than to any other, the Military Academy is indebted for its present prosperous and efficient condition. I allude to Col. SYLVANUS THAYER, of the Engineer Corps, who now, by reason of advanced years and faithful public services, is incapacitated for duty in the field. Under the recent law of Congress he may justly claim to be retired from active service; but, believing that his distinguished services should receive some mark of acknowledgment from the Government, I recommend that authority be asked to retire him upon his full pay and emoluments.

HEALTH OF THE ARMY.

The health of an army is a consideration of the highest consequence. Good men and women in different States, impelled by the highest motives of benevolence and patriotism, have come in aid of the constituted sanitary arrangements of the Government, and been greatly instrumental in diminishing disease in the camps, giving increased comfort and happiness to the life of the soldier, and imparting to our hospital service a more humane and generous character. Salubrity of situation and pleasantness of surroundings have dictated the choice of the hospital sites, and establishments for sick and wounded, of which we have every reason to be proud, have been opened in St. Louis, Washington, Georgetown, Baltimore, and Annapolis, and will be attached to every division of the army in the field. To the close of the war, vigilant care shall be given to the health of the well soldier, and to the comfort and recovery of the sick.

PROMOTION OF VOLUNTEERS.

I recommend that the system of promotions which prevails in the Regular service be applied to the Volunteer forces in the respective States; restricting, however, the promotions to men actually in the field. At present each Governor selects and appoints the officers for the troops furnished by his State, and complaint is not unfrequently made, that when vacancies occur in the field, men of inferior qualifications are placed in command over those in the ranks who are their superiors in military experience and capacity. The advancement of merit should be the leading principle in all promotions, and the Volunteer soldier should be given to understand that preferment will be the sure reward of intelligence, fidelity and distinguished service.

The course above recommended has been pursued by this Department, and it is my intention, so far as is in my power, to continue a system which cannot fail to have a most beneficial effect upon the entire service.

DISTINCTION BETWEEN REGULARS AND VOLUNTEERS.

By existing laws and regulations, an officer of the Regular army ranks an officer of Volunteers of the same grade, notwithstanding the commission of the latter may be of antecedent date. In my judgment, this practice has a tendency to repress the ardor and to limit the opportunity for distinction of Volunteer officers, and a change should be made by which seniority of commission should confer the right of command.

I submit for reflection the question, whether the distinction between Regulars and Volunteers which now exists, should be permitted to continue. The efficiency of the army, it appears to me, might be greatly increased by a consolidation of the two during the continuance of the war, which, combining both forces, would constitute them one grand army of the Union.

RECRUITING.

Recruiting for the Regular army has not been attended with that success which was anticipated, although a large number of men have entered this branch of the service. While it is admitted that soldiers in the Regular army, under the control of officers of military education and experience, are generally better cared for than those in the Volunteer service, it is certain that the popular preference is largely given to the latter. Young men evidently prefer to enter a corps officered by their friends and acquaintances, and, besides the bounty granted to Volunteers in most of the States, inducements are often directly offered to them by those whose commissions depend upon their success in obtaining recruits. In addition, the Volunteer is allowed to draw his full pay of $13 per month, while by law $2 per month are deducted from the pay of the Regular, to be returned to him at the end of his term of service. In my judgment, this law should be repealed, and the Regular soldier be allowed to receive his full pay when due. He should also receive either a reasonable bounty upon enlisting, or an advance of $20 of the $100 which a law of the last session of Congress grants to Regulars and Volunteers on the expiration of their periods of service. This would doubtless stimulate enlistments, as it would enable the soldier to make some provision for those dependent upon him for support, until he receives his pay.

OFFICERS.

By the Act approved Aug. 5, 1861, the President is authorized to appoint as many aids to Major-Generals of the Regular army, acting in the field, as he may deem proper. The number of aids, in my opinion, should be limited, and no more should be allowed to each Major-General than can be advantageously employed upon his own proper staff. Such expense would, thus be saved, and the Executive and the Department would be relieved of applications very embarrassing from their nature and extent.

MINORS.

The fifth section of the Act approved Sept. 28, 1850, makes the discharge of minors obligatory upon this Department, upon proof that their enlistment was without the consent of their parents or guardians. In view of the injurious operation of this law, and of the facilities which it opens to frauds, I respectfully urge its early repeal. Applications for discharges of minors can then be determined either by this Department, in accordance with such regulations as experience may have shown to be necessary, or by the civil tribunals of the country.

BANDS OF MUSIC.

The employment of regimental bands should be limited—the proportion of musicians now allowed by law being too great, and their usefulness not at all commensurate with their heavy expense.

RAILROAD COMPETITION—NECESSITY FOR ADDITIONAL FACILITIES.

Corporations, like individuals, are liable to be governed by selfish motives in the absence of competition. An instance of this kind occurred in the management of the railroads between Baltimore and New-York. The sum of $6 was charged upon that route for the transportation of each soldier from New-York to Baltimore. As this rate seemed extravagant to the Department, when considered in connection with the great increase of trade upon those roads, made necessary by the wants of the Government, inquiry was made concerning the expediency of using the roads from New-York to Baltimore *via* Harrisburgh. The result was an arrangement by which troops were brought by the last-named route at $4 each; and, as a consequence, this rate was at once necessarily adopted by all the railroads in the loyal States, making a saving to the Government of 33⅓ per cent. in all its transportation of soldiers, and at the same time giving to the railroads, through increased business, a liberal compensation.

The railroad connection between Washington and Baltimore has been lately much improved by additional sidings, and by extensions in this city. In order, however, that abundant supplies may always be at the command of the Department, arrangements should be made for laying a double track between this city and Annapolis Junction, with improved sidings and facilities at Annapolis and along the branch road.

Should the navigation of the Potomac River be interrupted by blockade, or the severities of Winter, it would become absolutely necessary, for the proper supply of the troops in the District of Columbia and vicinity, and of the inhabitants of this city, to provide additional railroad connection between Washington and Baltimore. A responsible Company, with a charter from the State of Maryland, have proposed to do this upon condition that the Government will indorse their bonds; they binding themselves to set aside annually a sufficient sum for their redemption at maturity, and thus eventually release the Government from any liability whatever, and to charge, for transportation, rates in no case to exceed four cents a ton per mile for freight, and three cents per mile for passengers. During the continuance of the war, however, their charge for passengers is not to exceed two cents per mile. The charge for the transportation of passengers between the two cities is at present three and three-quarter cents per mile, and for freight, the rates per ton will average from five to eight cents per mile. The large saving to the Government in cost of transportation, would amply compensate for all liability, and give to the citizens of all the loyal States greatly improved facilities for reaching the National Capital, and at much less rates than they are now compelled to pay. To the citizens of the District it would cheapen the cost of supplies, and prove of immense value in every respect.

I recommend that a railway be constructed through this city, from the Navy-yard, by the Capitol, to Georgetown, forming connections with the existing railroad depôts, and using the Aqueduct-bridge for the purpose of crossing the river at Georgetown. By a junction of this proposed railway with the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, not only would the communication with our troops in Virginia be greatly improved, but an easy access be obtained to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad near Harper's Ferry, by means of the Loudon and Hampshire Railroad. To its importance as affording facilities for moving troops and supplies in time of war, may be added the future benefits it would confer upon the District of Columbia. The outlay required would be saved in a few months by enabling the Government to dispense with the expensive ferry at Georgetown, and by greatly decreasing the costly wagon transportation of the army through this city.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD.

The injuries to railroads, instigated by the rebel authorities of Baltimore, in order to embarrass communication with the North and West, *via* Harrisburgh, and with the East, *via* Philadelphia, have been repaired by the different companies that own them. That portion of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad west of Harper's Ferry which was so ruthlessly destroyed by the rebels, has not yet been restored. The great interests of trade require that this road should be reopened as speedily as posible by the Company, for the transportation of the immense surplus of the agricultural productions of the West. To aid this object the Department has tendered to the Company a sufficient force for its protection during the progress of the work, and will render such facilities as it may be able to provide, in connection with its other important public duties.

For the purpose of facilitating the transportation of supplies to Alexandria, and to points beyond, it has been found necessary to rebuild portions of the Orange and Alexandria and the Loudon and Hampshire Railroads, and to lay a track from the Railroad depôt to a point on the Potomac River, in this city.

TELEGRAPH.

Under an appropriation granted for that purpose at the last session of Congress, a Telegraphic Bureau was established, and has been found of the greatest service in our military operations. Eight hundred and fifty-seven miles of telegraphic line have been already built and put in operation, with an efficient corps of operators, and a large extension is now in process of construction.

THE LONG BRIDGE.

Congress, at its late session, made an appropriation for the reconstruction of Long Bridge, across the Potomac, which, in its then dilapidated condition, was unsafe for military purposes. The work, which has been carried on without interruption to trade or travel, is rapidly approaching completion, and, when finished, will be a substantial structure.

LIEUT.-GEN. SCOTT AND GEN. M'CLELLAN.

On the first of the present month, Lieut.-Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT voluntarily relinquished his high command as General-in-Chief of the American Army. He had faithfully and gallantly served his country for upwards of half a century, and the glory of his achievements has given additional lustre to the brightest pages of our national annals. The affections of a grateful people followed him into his retirement. The President immediately conferred the command of the army upon the officer next in rank. Fortunately for the country, Major-General MCCLELLAN had proved himself equal to every situation in which his great talents had been called into exercise. His brilliant achievements in Western Virginia, the untiring energy and consummate ability he has displayed in the organization and discipline of an entirely new army, have justly won for him the confidence and applause of the troops and of the nation.

ECONOMY.

Extraordinary labor, energy, and talent have been required of the various bureaus of this Department to provide for the wants of our immeuse army. While errors may have been occasionally committed by subordinates, and while extravagant prices have undoubtedly, in some cases, controlled by haste and the pressure of rapid events, been paid for supplies, it is with great gratification that I refer to the economical administration of affairs displayed in the various branches of the service. Our forces had not only to be armed, clothed and fed, but had to be suddenly provided with means of transportation to an extent heretofore unparalleled. While I believe that there is no army in the world better provided for in every respect than our regulars and volunteers, I candidly think that no force so large, and so well equipped, was ever put in the field in so short a space of time at so small an expense.

While it is my intention to preserve the strictest economy and accountability, I think the last dollar should be expended and the last man should be armed to bring this unholy rebellion to a speedy and permanent close.

THE CAPITAL—PROPOSED CHANGE OF BOUNDARIES.

The geographical position of the Metropolis of the nation, menaced by the rebels, and required to be defended by thousands of our troops, induces me to suggest for consideration the propriety and expediency of a reconsturnction of the boundaries of the States of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. Wisdom and true statesmanship would dictate that the seat of the National Government, for all time to come, should be placed beyond reasonable danger of seizure by enemies within, as well as from capture by foes from without. By agreement between the States named, such as was effected, for similar purposes, by Michigan and Ohio, and by Missouri and Iowa, their boundaries could be so changed as to render the capital more remote than at present from the influence of State Governments which have arrayed themselves in rebellion against the Federal authority. To this end, the limits of Virginia might be so altered as to make her boundaries consist of the Blue Ridge on the East and Pennsylvania on the North, leaving those on the South and West as at present. By this arrangement, two counties of Maryland (Alleghany and Washington) would be transferred to the jurisdiction of Virginia. All that portion of Virginia which lies between the Blue Ridge and Chesapeake Bay could then be added to Maryland, while that portion of the peninsula between the waters of the Chesapeake and the Atlantic, now jointly held by Maryland and Virginia, could be incorporated into the State of Delaware. A reference to the map will show that these are great natural boundaries, which, for all time to come, would serve to mark the limits of these States.

To make the protection of the capital complete, in consideration of the large accession of territory which Maryland would receive under the arrangement proposed, it would be necessary that that State should consent so to modify her Constitution as to limit the basis of her representation to her white population.

In this connection, it would be the part of wisdom to reannex to the District of Columbia that portion of its original limits which, by act of Congress, was retroceded to the State of Virginia

THE SLAVE QUESTION—WHAT SHALL BE DONE WITH SLAVERY?

It is already a grave question what shall be done with those slaves who are abandoned by their owners on the advance of our troops into Southern territory, as at Beaufort District, in South Carolina. The number left within our control at that point is very considerable, and similar cases will probably occur. What shall be done with them? Can we afford to send them forward to their masters, to be by them armed against us, or used in producing supplies to maintain the rebellion? Their labor may be useful to us. Withheld from the enemy, it lessens his military resources, and withholding them has no tendency to induce the horrors of insurrection even in the rebel communities. They constitute a military resource, and, being such, they should not be turned over to the enemy, is too plain to discuss. Why deprive him of supplies by a blockade, and voluntarily give him men to produce supplies? The disposition to be made of the slaves of rebels after the close of the war can be safely left to the wisdom and patriotism of Congress. The representatives of the people will, unquestionably, secure to the loyal slaveholders every right to which they are entitled under the Constitution of the country.

SIMON CAMERON,
Secretary of War.

To the PRESIDENT of the United States.

IMPORTANT FROM MISSOURI.

A Fight with the Rebels at Salem—the National Troops Victorious.

ROLLA, Mo., Tuesday, Dec. 3.

Maj. BOMEN, who left here on Saturday last with 100 cavalry from Gen. WYMAN'S Brigade, in search of the notorious marauding rebel FREEMAN, was at Salem last night. About 3 o'clock this morning he was attacked at that place by the rebels under Cols. FREEMAN and TURNER, and after a sharp fight, the enemy holding one part of the town and our forces another, were driven from the place and completely routed, with a loss of some ten killed and thirty wounded, besides a great many prisoners. Among the latter was one captain. Our loss is about fifteen killed and wounded. Major BOMEN holds the town. Reinforcements have been sent ro him, as it is feared the enemy will rally in large numbers and overwhelm his command.

It is reported that from 2,060 to 3,000 of the enemy are in the vicinity.

THE JAMES ADGER AT BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, Tuesday, Dec. 3.

The steamer *James Adger*, from Southampton *vid* Fayal, Azores, has arrived here. We understand that one of her officers passed through this evening *en route* to Washington.

The Maryland Legislature met to-day. and there was a caucus to-night of the members. An organization will be effected to-morrow, when the Governor's message will be delivered.

THE ARMY AND NAVY.

Another detachment of regulars from California may shortly be expected here, making the third within the last five weeks. Five companies of the Third Artillery, and three companies of the Sixth Injantry, all recently from California *vid* Aspinwall and New-York, are stationed at Capitol Hill, Washington, under the command of Lieut.-Col. HAYES.

The United States steamer *Flambeau* went down and anchored off the Battery, to receive her powder, after which she will sail.

The schooner *George W. Blunt*, which should have sailed on Monday, was detained, and did not get away until after 3 o'clock yesterday. Master's Mate G. P. LEE, who was in command of the *George W. Blunt*, has been detached and ordered to the steamer *Alabama*, now on the Southern coast. He will go out in the steamer *Rhode Island*. G. P. LEE has been Master's Mate on the *Alabama* since that steamer went into commission and recently came home in the captured bark *Providence*, as prize-master. This shows that he is considered a trustworthy officer, and one who is aepable of filling a more important office than that of Master's Mate. Mr. SHERWOOD, formerly a coast pilot, goes out in command of the *George W. Blunt*. The executive officer, A. J. BROWER, has been first officer on a merchant ship for the last seven years, and is a very promising young officer.

The steamer *Rhode Island* and the storeship *Relief* took in a quantity of fresh provisions yesterday and are expected to sail to-day.

The *G. B. Hale* was in the stream taking in coal, and the *Chippewa* and *Winona*, new gunboats, are having their armament put on board with all dispatch.

ARRIVAL OF THE FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, OF THE AFRICAN SQUADRON, IN PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, Dec. 3.

The steamer *Hartford*, the flag-ship of the African Squadron, has arrived below from the Cape of Good Hope. The captain's clerk, HALL, of Baltimore, died during the passage home, and two sailors were lost overboard. All on board well.

FROM PORT ROYAL.

The United States steam transport *Patapsco*, Capt. BEARSE, from Port Royal in three days, arrived yesterday. On the 1st inst., off Charleston, she spoke the United States gunboat *Penguin*, cruising.

The *Patapsco* sailed from Port Royal a few hours after the steamship *McClellan*. Nothing new had transpired since the departure of the *McClellan*. The health of the troops was good.

On the 1st inst., ten miles North of Hatteras, passed United States steam-transports *Delaware* and *Boston*, both with troops for Port Royal.

AFFAIRS ON THE UPPER POTOMAC.

DARNESTOWN, Monday, Dec. 2.

There has been no incident of a striking character in Gen. BANKS' command since the last communication. The absence of the Commanding General at Washington induced the belief that a move was in contemplation, which was subsequently strengthened by other indications producing an exhilarating effect upon the minds of officers and men. The prospect of being compelled to Winter in this exhausted and almost inaccessible region had previously hung like an incubus on the energies of all, and produced almost disastrous effects upon the *esprit du corps* of the division.

Gen. BANKS arrived from Washington last night, but the result of his visit has not publicly transpired. It is currently believed, however, that it is favorable to better accommodations and increased facilities for procuring supplies.

The State Paymaster of Connecticut made his appearance in the camp of the Fifth Connecticut, with funds to disburse one-third of the annual bounty to the soldiers. The bounty is $30 per annum, which, rating the regiment at 900, will leave $9,000 in the regiment.

The Court-martial for the trial of JOHN LAVAGHAN, has found a verdict in his case, which has been sent to Washington for approval. What the verdict is can be inferred from the fact that he plead guilty to the charge of murder, and that the testimony fully corroborated the plea. His exemplary conduct and self-condemnation of the act have induced a strong sympathy in his behalf, and hopes are entertained in high circles that the Executive may find it consistent with army discipline to commute his sentence, should it be death, into imprisonment for life.

A reconnoissance was made on Saturday of the routes leading hence to other points by Capts. CALLIS and GOULD. They report the roads in a bad condition.

First-Lieutenant WHEATON, of Company I, Ninth New-York, has tendered and received the acceptance of his resignation. The cause of his resignation is purely of a domestic character, but having been much of late in command of his company by Capt. CLASSON being detailed on special duty, his resignation caused much regret to his subordinates and privates. As a gentleman and officer he was highly regarded by all.

Thanksgiving was not observed in camp with the exclusiveness of a New-England holiday; still, many indications were noticed in most of the regiments. Turkeys, hens, oyster pies, etc., were abundant, and the festive boards of the officers' messes denoted an abundance of good cheer and a proper degree of thankfulness.

The General Court-martial continues its sittings, and the examinations of several cases of desertion are next on the docket. The President, Major ATTERBURY, has been absent for several days on business connected with the Court, and there are now many cases awaiting his approval.

FLAG PRESENTATION.

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, Dec. 3.

To-day the personal friends of Maj. BARKER, of the McClellan Dragoons, presented a beautiful flag to the squadron under his command,

IMPORTANT FROM THE SOUTH.

A Reported Union Movement in New-Orleans.

THE REBEL CAPITAL NOT YET REMOVED.

Another Acknowledgment Regarding the Fight at Fort Pickens.

FORT McRAE NEARLY DEMOLISHED.

THE PARTICULARS STILL WITHHELD.

NEWS BY WAY OF FORTRESS MONROE.

BALTIMORE, Tuesday, Dec. 3.

The boat from Old Point has arrived.

The following items are gathered from Southern papers:

A conspiracy of Union men had been discovered in New-Orleans, causing great excitement there. Many arrests had been made.

The reported removal of the capital from Richmond to Nashville is incorrect.

The Southern papers are advocating the abolition of the elective franchise.

The latest advices from Pensacola represent that the fight had not been renewed. Accounts say that had the fight continued, Fort McRae would have been destroyed, but no particulars of the affair are given.

The planters throughout the Southern seaboard are represented to be destroying their crops lest they should fall into the hands of the Yankees.

Correspondence of the Philadelphia Inquirer.

FORTRESS MONROE, *vid* BALTIMORE, Sunday, Dec. 1, P. M.

I learn from a refugee, arrived yesterday afternoon by a flag of truce, that a dispatch published in the Richmond *Examiner*, on Thursday last, reads as follows:

MONTGOMERY, Wednesday, Nov. 27.

From a messenger, arrived here last night from Tallahassee, we learn the important intelligence that Gen. BRAXTON BRAGG has at last battered Fort Pickens in a frightful manner, and probably captured Col. BROWN and his command. The fort was breached in front, and attacked in the rear by our troops. The loss is great on both sides, and the fighting was of the most desperate character. U. R. T——N.

We send the above for what it is worth. Appearing in an official organ of the rebels, it may have been concocted for buncombe.

Our informant says there was but little excitement about the matter, and the people were anxiously awaiting further and more general news.

The Savannah *Republican*, of Thursday, says that the cannonading from the fleet upon Fort Pulaski could be distinctly heard the day previous. Commodore TATNALL, with his little fleet of six gunboats, had arrived off Savannah utterly disabled. There was but one regiment at Fort Pulaski, and no practiced artillerists, and it was feared that the whole garrison would be either slain or forced to surrender. These rumors and reports created the greatest excitement, and Gov. BROWN is greatly disturbed in consequence of the unfinished state of the defences on the Savannah River.

Nassau, on the Georgia coast, had been taken possession of by the Federals, and a large amount of unhulled rice and uninjured cotton had fallen a prey to them. The planters are destroying their cotton as fast as possible, when unable to carry it into the interior.

Bands of Union men were forming in the mountains, and a negro insurrection was deemed probable and imminent.

The wealthy families of Savannah were flying to Macon and Atlanta, as they have been led to believe that dishonor, if not death, awaits every female that may remain, should the city be captured.

The Georgia troops at Richmond and Petersburgh had formally demanded to be sent home by the Government. They had entered requests to this effect through their Colonels. It is said that their call will now be heeded.

The people of the Cotton States are greatly in fear of being overrun by the Northern "Goths and Vandals" this Winter.

The flag of truce brought no papers; the above is gleaned from two passengers.

We also learn that upon the arrival of some gold for the prisoners at Richmond, the President of the Bank of Virginia called upon Col. LEE and others and offered to take all the gold received from this time until the first of January at twenty per cent. premium, pledging himself to give, at this rate, the best money in the South—the old issue of the above mentioned.

United States Treasury Notes were being bought up at ten per cent. premium for the best Southern currency.

Gen. HUGER has issued a request to the effect that passengers from Fortress Monroe shall refrain from taking copies of public newspapers out of the limits of the Southern Confederacy.

On Friday last some of our scouts reported to Gen. MANSFIELD the fact that the rebels had been scouting around MASON'S house, three and a half miles from Camp Butler, and there seemed to be a desire evinced to establish a picket in the vicinity. Gen. MANSFIELD determined to frustrate this design, and on Friday night sent out a strong force under command of Major LOESER, to reconnoitre and dislodge the enemy should he be found.

The troops advanced to the vicinity of Newmarket, far beyond the house above mentioned, and found the enemy in some force, gave him battle, routed the pickets, and drove them across the Newmarket Bridge, killing five, and wounding about twenty. One of the killed has been identified as Major SCOTT, formerly a well known merchant of Richmond. The Unionists had the advantage of surprising the enemy, and, therefore, sustained no loss in killed; nor is it believed that any of our troops were seriously injured. Gen. MANSFIELD has made up his mind to give the rebels a decided check; and in this he is fully supported by Gen. WOOL, who has been punishing hem a little on the Back River recently, since he has had a regiment of cavalry to use.

Gen. BUTLER'S expedition is spoken of in the Southern papers with derision. It is evident that they are not apprised of the fact that the "van" has sailed.

The steamers *Boston* and *Delaware* sailed last night for Port Royal, with stores and munitions of war. The *Cosmopolitan* will sail soon with troops.

Since Gen. MANSFIELD has taken command at Newport's News he has become quite popular. He has recently given orders to the troops to practice continually at targets with their pieces, and he has given orders of the same nature to the artillery at his post.

A Committee of gentlemen from Troy, N. Y., consisting of one Counciliman, one Alderman and a distinguished citizen, is here to take charge of the volunteers' money for their families. We understand that Gen. WOOL is in favor of this movement.

Capt. STEWART, of the Third Artillery, is here at present. He is an accomplished officer. His company is to be mounted immediately, and will act hereafter as a flying battery, but it will never fly from the enemy.

Persons sending small parcels to the troops here and at Hatteras should be careful to direct them fully and correctly.

It is thought here that Gen. BURNSIDE'S Division is not intended for hostilities upon the coast.

INTERESTING FROM RICHMOND.

CONDITION OF THE PRISONERS AT RICHMOND AND CHARLESTON—EFFECT OF THE CAPTURE OF PORT ROYAL—FRIGHT OF THE REBELS.

One of the crew of the *Grenada*, a vessel captured sometime since by the privateer *Sallie*, of Charleston, who has recently arrived from Charleston and Richmond, has given us some interesting particulars in relation to the state of things there, and his own experiences. The *Grenada*, after being captured, was carried into an inlet a few miles south of Charleston, and taken to Charleston, where she and her cargo were bought by the Government for $75,000. Her cargo was sugar and molasses, and would have been worth some $50,000 here.

The crew of the *Grenada* were thrown into Charleston jail, in which are also confined 33 officers and 133 privates of our army. They are in a very bad condition for clothing and furniture, their clothes being worn out and ragged, and no provision whatever being made for them there. One Captain of a Vermont Regiment had his baggage stolen from him on the way from Richmond to Charleston, and since that time had been lying on the floor with his shoes for a pillow. The sailors of the *Grenada* and the *Betsy Ames*, another vessel captured by the *Sallie*, divided all their spare clothes and their bedding among the prisoners when the sailors left, and that would improve their condition somewhat. Their food was scanty and poor. They get three hard biscuits a day and a little maggoty bacon, with about two ounces a week of coffee and sugar. The coffee is rye. All through the South they prefer rye to Rio now-a-days. The prisoners get no help or sympathy from the people, who are not allowed to speak to them or to carry them news. The people get the New-York papers, however, and Col. CORCORAN has friends who bring him papers, though it is contrary to rule. The Colonel is full of pluck, and says if they choose to hang him they can do so, and that *if it is going to be of any benefit to the country to have him hung, he is ready to meet it.*

The people insult the prisoners, the women being worse than the men. When in Castle Pinckney the prisoners were charged $2 50 a bushel for sweet potatoes, but now they can buy things more cheaply—those that have money. The chances of any money letters, or anything else that is sent, on reaching the prisoners is very small. Money is very scarce everywhere, except shin-plasters. Every merchant and groggery almost issues shin-plasters, which they cut in pieces to make change. The first one our informant saw was made out of an advertisement in the form of a bank bill which had been wrapped round a bottle of Lyon's Kathairon and altered into a shin-plaster.

The fright at the taking of Port Royal was very great. A thousand men could have taken Charleston easily. There is no business doing there, many of the stores being shut up. The Confederate postage-stamps, with the head of JEFF. DAVIS, pass everywhere for small change. At Richmond things looked better than further South. Every one in the streets wore a uniform. They had made a ram there, with which they proposed to come down the river some night, and they reported the *Merrimac* nearly ready for sea.

There were hardly any troops in Charleston, but a good many about Richmond.

Our prisoners will not forget the treatment which they have received, nor will their friends at the North.

NEWS BY WAY OF LOUISVILLE.

LOUISVILLE, Tuesday, Dec. 3.

The Bowling Green *Courier*, of the 26th, says a party of rebels went yesterday to Franklin to arrest some dozen Unionists. The latter retired within a house, and fired, killing one rebel, when the remainder set fire to the house, burning it and all the Unionists therein.

The Atlanta *Confederacy* says the Mayor of Augusta, and the Governors of Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana have recommended the Legislatures to suppress unjust and unpatriotic speculations in the prime necessaries of life.

The Knoxville *Register* says the Lick Creek bridge, on the Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, has been repaired, which has opened communication between Knoxville and Bristol.

A Richmond dispatch to the Nashville *Patriot*, says DANIEL HAND, formerly a merchant in Augusta and Savannah, and recently of New-York, has been committed to jail here, suspected of treason, or of being a spy.

TRANSFER OF REBEL PRISONERS.

In pursuance of orders issued by Gen. DIX, Major D. P. DEWITT, with a guard of nine men of the Second Regiment of Maryland Volunteers, left Baltimore on Monday morning with nine secession prisoners, who had been confined at Fort McHenry, for Fort Lafayette. The guard and the prisoners, on arriving at Amboy, embarked on a steamer for the Fort yesterday morning, and the captives were delivered to the care of Col. BURKE. Among them is the celebrated "French Lady," Col. THOMAS, who is charged with piracy and treason. The remaining prisoners are charged with having uttered treasonable language, and corresponding with the enemy. The following are the names of the captives:

Richard D. Zawoni, R. C. Holland, James Martin, Edward C. Cottrell, George Julius, Thomas Martin, John Potterfield, Robert W. Raisson, Col. Thomas, the "French Lady."

The guard reports that on Saturday last Col. THOMAS offered a large bribe to one of the Sergeants at Fort McHenry to permit him to escape. This circumstance, and the crowded state of the Fort, led to his removal to Fort Lafayette.

THE WHEELING CONVENTION.

WHEELING, VA., Tuesday, Dec. 3.

The Convention to-day changed the name of the new State from "Kanawha" to "Western Virginia."

A stirring debate is expected on the Slavery question.

THE ARREST OF GEN. BENHAM.

The Wheeling *Intelligencer*, of Monday, contains the following paragraph:

"Brig.-Gen. BENHAM, of the army of the Kanawha, was in the city yesterday, on his way to Washington. He is under arrest, but he himself does not know what for, only that it has reference to the recent pursuit of FLOYD, and some misunderstanding between himself and Gen. ROSECRANS."

LOCAL MILITARY MOVEMENTS.

FUNDS FROM WASHINGTON.

Col. SACKETT is now in receipt of funds from Washington, and as a natural consequence the U. S. mustering office is visited daily by a large concourse of contractors, sutlers, and military agents generally. The disbursement for the month of November amounts in the aggregate to nearly $94,000.

DEPARTURE OF THE IRISH BRIGADE.

The orders for the departure of the two remaining regiments of the Irish Brigade turn out to have been merely informal. Whatever their nature, at any rate they have been countermanded, and the regiments will not leave for some days to come.

DEPARTURE OF THE SEVENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT.

The New-York Seventy-Fifth Regiment was quartered in the Park Barracks all day yesterday. According to present arrangements, the regiment will proceed to Governor's Island, where they will remain for a few days till the *Baltic* is prepared for their reception. The destination of this regiment will, in all probability, be to Fort Pickens.

TO ALL PERSONS NOW ENGAGED IN WORKING FOR THE GREAT FAIR FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CHILDREN OF VOLUNTEERS FROM THIS CITY.—The managers of the Union Home School now call upon all societies and churches, or persons that have been working for the Great Fair, to bring in all articles on Thursday, Friday or Saturday of the present week, any time after 11 o'clock A. M., as the Fair will be opened on Monday next, Dec. 9, 1861. The managers appeal to all persons to contribute *one article* for the benefit of the motherless children of our Volunteers. Any articles that can be used at the Fair or at the Home School, may be left before Thursday, with the President, Mrs. ROBERT ANDERSON, Fifth-avenue Hotel, or Mrs. DRAKE MILLS, Vice-President, No. 23 Fifth-avenue. On or after Thursday, all articles may be left at the rooms, No. 524 Broadway, one door below Spring-street, where the Fair will be held.

[Advertisement.]

KNOCKING THINGS ABOUT GENERALLY.—The successful landing of troops at Port Royal, and occupation of Forts Walker and Beauregard, has knocked terror into the hearts of rebels; and the expected advance of our great army of the Potomac, under the guidance of the brave McClellan, will soon knock the egs from under the bogus C. S. A. Meanwhile, KNOX, the hatter, No. 212 Broadway continues to knock down his most fashionable HATS at such low prices that all others in the trade are compelled to knock under.

[Advertisement.]

WE ASSERT IT BOLDLY.—There are no other medicines so reliable, effectual and convenient, as HOLLOWAY'S Pills and Ointment, always ready for use. They are invaluable to the soldier exposed to wounds, sores, fevers and bowel complaints. They never fail.

[Advertisement.]

"CENTRAL PARK SKATE EMPORIUM."—Skates of all kinds, from 25 cents to $25. Everything in the skating line (except ponds) to suit everybody.

CONOVER & WALKER, Hardware Dealers, No. 474 Broadway, between Grand and Broome streets.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—THIS DAY.

Sun rises.... 7 08 | Sun sets.... 4 33 | Moon sets.... 7 33

HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.

Sandy Hook. 9 42 | Gov. Island. 10 31 | Hell Gate.... 11 83

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK....TUESDAY, Dec. 3.

Cleared.

Steamship Asia, Lott, Liverpool, E. Cunard.
Steamer Artisan, McCabe, Baltimore, master.
Ships Susan Frances, Newcomb, London, G. E. Coit; Charles Pennell, Given, Bristol, Eng., J. O. Baker & Co.; Mercury, French, Havre, Boyd & Hincken; Amelia, (Span.,) Amenqual, Cadiz, Rivera & Hall.
Barks Eva, Perry, Cork, Edmiston Bros.; Casco, Gardner, Trinidad de Cuba, Geo. S. Stephenson.
Brig Bell, (Br.,) Creswell, Pictou, Reed & Shipley.
Lybel, (Br.,) Mullins, [illegible]
Schooners [illegible]
Dunseath, Exertion, [illegible]
rison; R. Williams, [illegible]
E. G. Knight, Savoy, Mayaguez, Baker, Nye & Co.
Milton, Keen, Baltimore, J. W. McKee; John Bentley, Dormedi, Philadelphia, Baker & Dayton; Dodge, Lockham, Providence, L. Kenny.

Arrived.

U. S. steam transport Patapsco, Beasre, Port Royal 4th inst., off Charleston, spoke U

Supplement to The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1861.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

The Second Day's Proceedings of Congress.

Reception and Reading of the President's Message.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

Proposed Thanks of Congress to Com. Dupont.

Expulsion of Henry C. Burnett, the Secession Member of the House from Kentucky.

PATRIOTIC SPEECH OF MR. WICKLIFFE.

The Rebels to be Driven Out of Kentucky Before Christmas.

Military Operations Across the Potomac.

An Unsuccessful Hunt After Rebel Cavalry.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 3.

THE DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

The President's message, transmitted to Congress to-day, was unaccompanied by any of the reports from the Departments. In consequence of the estimates of the Departments coming in later than usual this year, the report of the Secretary of the Treasury will not be sent to Congress before Friday or Saturday.

HOW THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE IS RECEIVED.

The universal topic of conversation in Washington, to-day, is the President's Message. Opinions about it differ as widely as do the partisan preferences of the people. The ultra Abolition element in Congress is sorely disappointed by the utter failure of their efforts to engraft their principles either on the President's Message or on any of the Secretaries' reports. This class of politicians declare the message to be tame and ineffective. On the other hand, the moderate men of all parites are highly pleased. They are quite enthusiastic in praise of Mr. LINCOLN. Knowing the tremendous pressure that has been brought to bear upon him to swerve him from his purpose, they declare that he is now fully tried and found the man of firmness necessary to his position. The absence of all passion, boasting and threats in the Message, and the kind and catholic spirit exhibited towards the deluded people of the insurgent States, are regarded as the highest evidence of a lofty statesmanship. As the moderate men compose nine-tenths of the population of the country, the Message will doubtless meet with popularity.

THE PROPOSAL TO COLONIZE CONFISCATED SLAVES, ETC.

The recommendation of the President in regard to the colonization of confiscated slaves, and his remarks upon the treatment of Slavery by the Border Slave States that remain true to the Union, seem to remit the entire subject of emancipation to the States holding slaves, and to make the National Government an abettor only in the work of colonization. This is the ancient ground of HENRY CLAY in regard to Slavery, which may be easily combined with the plan of FRANK P. BLAIR, Jr., for colonizing them in Central America—which, after all, is the only sensible plan of colonization ever proposed. Some of the more enthusiastic of Mr. LINCOLN'S friends declare that the effect of his present Message will be to restore the Union, and give him another term in the Presidential office. It remains to be seen whether Congress will back him up with sufficient unanimity to give his policy success.

THE SUBJECT OF THE COAST DEFENCES.

The correspondence furnished by the State Department, and which will be published immediately, will fully disclose the cause of the letter to Governors of the different States relative to the coast defences.

SENATOR TRUMBULL'S CONFISCATION BILL.

Senator TRUMBULL will, to-morrow, introduce his bill, of which he gave previous notice. It will provide for the absolute forfeiture of all property of rebels who are beyond the reach of judicial process, that situated in the rebellious districts to be forfeited through the military power, and that found in districts where the judicial authorities are not overborne through the Courts; the proceeds of the property forfeited, after the payment of the just claims of the loyal creditors to be kept as a fund for the reimbursement of loyal citizens despoiled of their property by the rebellion, and the balance to be appropriated towards paying the expenses of its suppression. Rebels are also to forfeit their claims to slaves, who are to be made free, and the President is to make provision for the colonization of such as are willing to go, in some tropical country, where they can have the protection of the Government as freemen. Judge TRUMBULL will, on the presentation of this bill, explain at some length its features. This or some other policy will probably be adopted, and the subject will undoubtedly furnish the theme of much of the debate of this session.

OPENING TRADE WITH SOUTHERN PORTS.

The Treasury Department is engaged in perfecting arrangements for opening trade with the repossessed Southern ports which will be completed in a few days.

CODIFICATION OF THE POSTAL LAWS.

The House Post-office Committee met this morning and resolved to codify all the postal laws and regulations, which are now scattered through the United States Statutes from 1825 to the present time, and the official decisions of the Postmaster-General during the same period.

THE NEWS OF OPDYKE'S ELECTION.

The news of OPDYKE'S election diffused general joy in Washington. The result is considered fatal to the political future of FERNANDO I.

THE REBEL CAVALRY IN THE FRYING-PAN.

For some time past a force of rebel cavalry, numbering about 1,500 men, have made their appearance in what is called the "Frying-Pan," in the neighborhood of Hunter's Mills. To-day a reconnoissance, consisting of troops from Gens. PORTER'S, SMITH'S and McCALL'S Divisions, in all about 9,000 men, was made in that direction, with a view of capturing the rebels. The advance was principally made at an early hour this morning, and the force returned this evening without having even caught a glimpse of the enemy, though at night the camp-fires of an entire division were seen by AVERILL'S Cavalry around Germantown.

MORE REBEL DESERTERS.

Two rebel deserters, from Col. SEYMOUR'S Sixth Louisiana Infantry, reached the lines of Gen. McCALL yesterday, and report JOHNSTON to be in command, aided by BEAUREGARD, as second. They state that Centreville is now three times as strongly fortified as was Manassas before the battle of Bull Run, and that the enemy are daily expecting an attack. During the affair of Col. BAYARD at Drainsville, last week, their whole army was drawn up in readiness. The men observe that there is a great scarcity of wagons, and that, in case of retreat, immense quantities of baggage would be left behind. Large quantities of new Sibley tents are being procured, and the rebel army is said to be well clothed and fed—their only need being coffee, which is very scarce. They had overheard rebel officers highly complimenting our navy for its skill in taking Port Royal.

OTHER NEWS FROM THE REBELS.

Country people report that the Virginia regiments of Cols. STEWART and RADFORD, and the North Carolina regiment of Col. RANSOM, have been each encamped near Mrs. MURRAY'S farm, beyond HUNTER'S mills.

FITZHUGH LEE, son of Capt. LEE, U. S. Navy, lately a Lieutenant in the U. S. Army, is now Lieutenant Colonel of STEWART'S Cavalry.

CAPTURE OF A REBEL SPY.

A rebel spy, who has been in the habit for a long time, as he himself acknowledges, of visiting our lines for the purpose of obtaining information for the rebels, was captured yesterday, about six miles below Alexandria, by parties sent out from Gen. JAMISON'S Brigade. His *modus operandi* was as follows: Crossing the Occoquan River in a small boat, he managed to sink it so as to prevent its being discovered, at the same time hiding the oars in the woods. At night time he would emerge from the woods and elude the pickets, arriving in Alexandria, where he would get his budget of information, together with the New-York and other papers, and leave at once for the rebel lines. He is now in possession of Gen. HEINTZELMAN, and will be handed over to the Government.

THE REBEL CAPITAL.

Whether the rebels have removed their Capital from Richmond to Nashville is uncertain. Information from the Government states the fact both ways. It may be that owing to indignation manifested by the people of Richmond, the question of removal was reconsidered by the rebel Congress. Much disagreement exists in the statements of Government agents as to the rebel force about Richmond. They are estimated at from ten to twenty thousand men.

CONTRABANDS AT FORTRESS MONROE.

We have now between three and four thousand contrabands at Fortress Monroe. The able-bodied men are employed upon fortifications and other work at $8 and $10 per month, and rations according to the kind of labor performed. The money earned is taken by the Quartermaster for the support of the old and infirm women and children; the surplus, between $3,000 and $4,000, being placed to the credit of the contrabands, to be given to them in small sums as necessity requires, and to be turned over to them entirely when it is known what disposition is to be made of them.

THE REBELS IN TEXAS.

Information received from Matamoras under date of the 15th ult. states that the rebels instead of having 5,000 troops at Brazos Santiago and Brownsville, have less than a hundred, and that a force of a few hundred troops could take and hold that point of Texas.

CLOTHING FOR THE PRISONERS AT RICHMOND.

Two thousand suits of comfortable clothing, and other necessaries, were sent to our prisoners at Richmond last week, by the Quartermaster-General. Besides this, Massachusetts sent three hundred and fifty suits to the prisoners from that State.

THE CASE OF COMMANDER SCOTT.

The Naval Court-martial, who are engaged in trying the case of Commodore SCOTT, of the steamer *Keystone State*, for leaving his post without leave, have examined all the witnesses, and will have the arguments in the matter to-morrow.

A PERSISTENT YOUNG LADY.

For several weeks a very beautiful and interesting young lady called daily upon the Secretary of State, to intercede for her lover, who is one of the State prisoners—he having been arrested three months since, while conveying dispatches to the rebels. After much importunity by the lady, and a great deal of correspondence with her lover, the latter agreed to her to take the oath of allegiance, and an officer was sent to the old Capitol prison, to administer the oath. On its being read to the caged lover, he objected to taking it, stating that he objected to a part of it. On being asked what part, he stated that which denied him the benefit of "any mental reservation" as one of its conditions.

A REGIMENT OF HEAVY ARTILLERY.

Col. CHAS. R. DORAN and his Quartermaster, JOHN BOSLER, Jr., both of Philadelphia, are now here, proposing to furnish the Government with a full regiment of heavy artillery, which they have recruited at their own expense. These gentlemen have both seen service, Col. DORAN as an officer at the battle of Bull Run, and Mr. BOSLER as Commissary of Gen. FREMONT'S Division on the overland route to California.

MEETING OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The National Sanitary Commission met and entered upon their deliberations to-night. Dr. BELLOWS presided, and the Commission was full.

PENSION GRANTED.

The following pensions have been granted since our last list was published:

WILLIAM HOLMES, private, Company E, First Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, for gun-shot wound in both hands, and loss of left hand, $8 per month.

SUSAN L., widow of GORDON FORREST, Sergeant Company G, First Massachsetts Volunteers, killed at Bull Run July 18, 1861, $8 50 per month.

ANN, widow of GEORGE K. HOGG, First Lieutenant Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, drowned crossing Patuxent River, Sept. 11, 1861, $25 per month.

THE FIRST AUDITOR'S OFFICE REMOVED.

The First Auditor's Office has been removed from Corcoran's building to the Treasury building, the rooms formerly occupied by the Secretary.

COL. HAWKINS IN THE CITY.

Col. HAWKINS, of the New-York Ninth Volunteers, arrived to-day with dispatches from Gen. WOOL.

HEINTZELMAN'S DIVISION INSPECTED.

Lieut.-Cols. SWEITZER and HUDSON, of Gen. McCLELLAN'S Staff, have just completed an inspection of Gen. HEINTZELMAN'S Division. They speak in the highest terms of the condition of Gen. SEDGWICK'S Brigade, but not so well of the others.

ARREST OF COL. BETZE.

Col. BETZE, of the Cameron Rifles, was arrested to-day, by order of Gen. McCLELLAN. His offence is permitting his men to depredate upon private property in Virginia, in stealing horses, and any other personal property that they chose to lay hold of.

THE CASE OF KERRIGAN.

The statement of the conviction and sentence of Col. KERRIGAN is utterly without truth. He has not even been tried, and I am unable to learn that the charges and specifications have yet been fully determined upon.

ABUNDANCE OF FORAGE.

The Government has now abundant facilities for bringing forage to Washington, and no fears are entertained of a failure in the supply.

THE ZOUAVE UNIFORMS FROM FRANCE.

The Zouave uniforms from France will be distributed to the Eighty-third Pennsylvania, Eighth Michigan, and Forty-fourth New York Regiments.

THE POTOMAC FLOTILLA.

Com. CRAVEN to-day relinquished the command of the Potomac Flotilla, and started for Philadelphia to take command of the *Brooklyn*.

A POST-OFFICE ORDER.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
APPOINTMENT-OFFICE, Dec. 3, 1861.

A branch office having been established at the Capitol in the City of Washington, the various distributing-officers are hereby directed, during the session of Congress, to place all letters and newspapers directed to members of the United States Senate and of the House of Representatives in separate pouches from all other mail matter, and label such pouches, "Congress, Washington, D. C."

By order of the Postmaster-General.

(Signed.) JOHN A. KASSON,
First Assistant Postmaster-General.

CONSULATES.

More applications for appointments to Consulates have been made to-day than for the whole month previously.

CONSULAR DEFALCATIONS.

The following is an extract from the Fifth Auditor's annual report:

To Hon. S. P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury:

I regret to be obliged to state that some of our Consulates seem to have been exposed to considerable depredation from our own agents and officers.

Although these officers are required by law to report quarterly, I found, on entering upon the duties of this office, that the last salary report of the Consul of as important a port as Liverpool, was made March 31, 1858, and that the Consul then acknowledged a balance in his hands of $2,929 83. Since then he had strangely been permitted to hold on without reporting, spending all the funds he could reach, neglecting the payment of all claims for food, clothing and medical attendance of our sick and destitute seamen; and, by a course of plunder and profligacy unequaled in our history, contracting public and private debts, which, I am assured by a neighboring Consul, probably exceed two hundred thousand dollars.

It is perhaps some consolation to reflect that this plunderer no longer disgraces the Government abroad, but, like our late Minister to Spain, who of all our foreign Ministers manifested the greatest affection for extra allowances, has found a kindred and congenial association in the ranks of the rebel conspiracy. It is, however, proper to remark, that reports were made from this office to the proper authorities of the delinquencies of the Consul to Liverpool without producing any decided action.

Some of the Consulates on the Pacific Coast and Islands need investigation and reform. In four of these, the disbursements for the relief of seamen, during the year embraced in the last report from this office, exceeded $114,000, and were about $8,000 more than the disbursements of all our other Consulates during the same year.

In my judgment, the appointment of an efficient Consul-General for the Islands and Coast of the Pacific, with a salary of $4,000 or $5,000, would, by stopping the wholesale robbery practiced under cover of our humane provisions for sick and destitute seamen, save to the Treasury ten times the amount it would cost.

By the experience and assistance of my efficient Chief Clerk, we have made some diminution in this class of expenditures during the past year, reducing the gross amount from $220,670 30 to $177,738 17, and saving to the Treasury $42,932 13. But we have been unable to reach the root of the difficulty. In these distant Consulates there are both temptations and facilities for procuring fictitious vouchers, and the correctness of papers on the face is generally in exact proportion to the enormity of the frauds they cover. Nothing short of the supervision of an officer of capacity and competent authority will be able to effect the necessary reform. When, by proper safeguards, our Consuls shall be relieved from all temptations to devise ways and means to reach the Treasury by fraudulent vouchers, they will have more time to attend to their legitimate duties, and we shall have reason to expect that the real wants of our sick and destitute seamen will be better supplied, and the receipt for seamen's wages will be increased.

JOHN C. UNDERWOOD, Auditor.

OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

THE FIRST DAY'S DELIBERATIONS OF CONGRESS—THE VOTE UPON THE RESOLUTIONS REGARDING THE SLAVERY QUESTION—THE APPEARANCE IN THE CITY OF PROMINENT REBEL SYMPATHIZERS, ETC.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Dec. 2, 1861.

The only circumstance of moment which attended the deliberations of the first day's session of Congress, was the vote upon the resolutions regarding the Slavery question. It was made quite manifest that a large majority of the House will favor a very radical treatment of the disease. It is probable that a similar spirit prevails in the Senate, and the concurring opinions of large majorities in both Houses cannot fail to influence the policy of the Administration. The broad ground is taken that there is no reason why property in slaves should be treated with more consideration than property in horses and wagons, and especially as Slavery has produced the war. It is also true that the rebels confiscate everything belonging to persons living in the Free States, or in the loyal Slave States, unless the non-resident can establish his sympathy in their cause.

The appearance in the city of Senators POWELL, of Kentucky; BRIGHT, of Indiana; and Ex-Senator GREEN, of Missouri, together with VALLANDIGHAM, of Ohio, in the House, has created a general curiosity as to what is to be done with them. POWELL is, perhaps, the least implicated in treason of the four, while BRIGHT and VALLANDIGHAM, as coming from Free States, are held in greatest contempt. No sort of respect is felt for the motives of any of these men, and it may be hoped that the new and stringent oath prescribed by the last Congress for officials will be presented to their lips; unless, indeed, it is withheld in order to prevent the parties committing the crime of perjury.

What GREEN wants here is not known. He certainly has not come to urge forward a more vigorous prosecution of the war, and if he has become a peace-maker, his antecedents are not such as to warrant sanguine hopes of his success. GREEN was one of the most bitter Secessionists in the last Congress, up to the 4th of March. He was not a whit behind JEFF. DAVIS in the ultraism of his views, up to that period. How is it, then, that he is now pursuing the things that make for peace? Has he been attending the prayer meetings, or has his courage oozed out at his fingers' ends? His term expired on the 4th of March, and he is now an outsider.

FOSTER again comes forward as the claimant of a seat in Congress from North Carolina. He sets up a new claim, founded on another alleged election, and I believe that he also claims to represent the so-called "Provisional Government," constituted by a recent Convention, representing forty-five counties of the State, as we are told, and which is said to have elected a Mr. TAYLOR as Governor. But the actual *de facto* jurisdiction of this Government is confined to the sand-bar recently captured by the United States Navy at Hatteras. The portion of this bar protected by the United States flag may be fifteen or twenty miles long, by about one mile wide. Would it not be a hazardous experimeut to reconstruct the political edifice on such a foundation? There is danger that the fabric built in such flagrant disregard of the Scripture admonition will, when the winds blow and the storms beat upon it, go down into oozy oblivion. FOSTER, however, has no footnold on this sandbar, and he must prove his title clear as the representative of the district which lies beyond the Sound, where the United States flag has not ventured since the rebellion broke out. This will be hard to do.

There are three parties to this business of manufacturing representatives in Congress from the rebel States, viz: First, the Representative, so called, it is not difficult to imagine that he might derive some remote benefit from the arrangement. Second, the people of the loyal States who pay the taxes, and who will have to bear the expense. And third, the scattered Union men who inhabit the districts "represented," and who will never know, until the rebel Government is broken up, that they have all the while been the objects of the tender solicitude of a Representative in the National Congress, at three thousand dollars a year and mileage. It would require some patient effort to show how these latter parties are to be benefited by the scheme.

I have been favored by the Fifth Auditor with the following interesting extract from his annual report. It shows a very lax of state morality among our late Democratic Consuls, and makes valuable suggestions as to the correction of the evil. OBSERVER.

THE PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 3.

The President's Message was communicated soon after the opening of the Senate, through his private Secretary NICOLAY. It was read. [The Message will be found in full on the First Page of this morning's TIMES.]

The usual number of the Message and accompanying documents were ordered to be printed.

Mr. GRIMES, of Iowa, (Rep.,) introduced the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of Congress be, and hereby are, tendered to Capt. SAMUEL R. DUPONT, and through him, to the officers, petty officers, seamen and marines attached to the squadron under his command, for the decisive and splendid victory achieved at Port Royal on the 7th day of November last.

Mr. GRIMES had no doubt every Senator was prepared to vote for the resolution now, but the best course to pursue was perhaps to act in accordance with precedent, and refer the resolution to the Committee on Naval affairs.

The resolution was laid aside until the formation of the Standing Committees.

Mr. FOSTER, of Pennsylvania, (Rep.,) gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill supplementary to the act to authorize protection to be given citizens of the United States who may discover deposits of guano, approved Aug. 26.

On motion of Mr. FOSTER, it was resolved that the Vice-President appoint two members to fill the vacancies in the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, occasioned by the death of Senator DOUGLAS and the expulsion of JAMES M. MASON, late Senator from Virginia. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 3.

Mr. MAYNARD, of Tennessee, (Union,) on presenting the credentials of Mr. CLEMENS, a Representative elect from the Fourth Congressional District of Tennessee, asked permission to state a few facts in connection with the application. He said: I will take occasion to correct an error, which I see in the reports of the morning papers, of the remarks which fell yesterday from the Chairman of the Committee on Elections. That gentleman is reported to have said that the election in Tennessee occurred before any steps were taken by Tennessee towards seceding. That is not the case. Steps were taken by that State towards seceding directly after the fall of Fort Sumter. I will not detain the House with what I suppose is pretty generally known by those who studied the history of those transactions, nor will I dwell upon the steps that were taken to that end, nor the order of dates in connection therewith; suffice it to say, that the consummating act was a submission to the voters of Tennessee, on the day of the August election whether they would attach themselves to the so-called Southern Confederacy by formally voting for or against the National Congress and the Southern Congress. In the three districts composing what is called Eastern Tennessee, candidates were offered to the people for the Confederate Congress, and also for the Congress of the United States. This question was submitted directly through the announcements of the candidates themselves, through the usual form of the polls and during the canvass, whether the people would be represented at Richmond or Washington. Those three districts voted by large majorities for representation in the Congress of the United States, under that flag under which they were born and under which they hoped to die. They also voted by similarly large majorities against attaching themselves to the Southern Confederacy, and voted against accepting the Constitution submitted to them on that point. The gentlemen selected from the First and Third Districts of Tennessee left their homes at the end of the last session, and what befell them subsequently on their way to Washington is generally well known. In the Fourth District, which Mr. CLEMENS is here to represent, I am informed that there were three candidates contesting the election for the Southern Congress. Against those candidates Mr. CLEMENS succeeded, having received more votes than the others, and therefore he claims to be the legally elected Representative of that district in this House. The election was held on the day and at the time fixed by the Constitution and the laws of Tennessee, as they have existed for many years past. Under all these circumstances, Mr. CLEMENS is legally entitled to represent the constituency. Mr. CLEMENS, however, had no objections to have his claim submitted to the Committee on Elections.

On motion, the credentials were referred to the Committee on Elections.

The President's Message was received a few minutes after noon and read.

On motion of Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, (Rep.,) the Mesage was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and his motion for printing 50,000 extra copies was referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. DUNN, of Indiana, (Rep.,) offered the following:

Whereas, HENRY C. BURNETT, a member of this House from Kentucky, is in open rebellion against the Government of the United States, therefore

Resolved, That the said HENRY C. BURNETT be and he is hereby expelled from this House, and that the Governor of Kentucky be notified of his expulsion.

Resolved. That the Sergeant-at-Arms be directed not to pay BURNETT'S salary, which has accrued since the close of the extra session.

Mr. WICKLIFFE, of Kentucky, (Union)—I intended to have submitted some such proposition as that just presented, accompanying it with an obituary notice, or speech, of my late colleague. [Laughter.] I will not, however, deliver that obituary now. My colleague has showed himself in extraordinary colors. He is now in armed rebellion, at the head of a Provisional Government in Kentucky, and the leader of a revolutionary Convention. Not satisfied with the interpretation which Congress has given to the Constitution, nor the efforts it adopted to put down disunion, nor satisfied with the course his own State and people have taken, he (Mr. BURNETT) has assumed the important duty of organising a Government for the better protection of the liberties, lives and property of the people of Kentucky. In that undertaking he has assumed a warlike attitude, and has placed himself under the military command of one SIMON BUCKNER, who is somewhat assimilated, not only in name but in practice, and is much more wicked, than SIMON GERRY, who headed the Indian tribes in an attempt to conquer Kentucky in the days of her first settlement. I will not speak of him as the leader of the revolutionary party in my State, and President of the Convention so earnest in the cause of Kentucky. Three times has that gallant State, by overwhelming majorities, declared that she would not leave the Union of the States, nor seek after a strange god, or in any way connect herself with or justify the course taken by the so-called Southern Republic. And yet, in revelation of that declaration, three distinct times made, in spite of the solemn act of more than two-thirds of the representatives of the people, assembled in her legislative chamber, by which they defined and declared her position, we are libeled by that Convention. It has stated that the Union Party in Kentucky has disregarded the personal, and civil, and political rights of the citizens of Kentucky, and that the relief kindly sent us by that Convention was to protect us in those rights. Sir, we were deceived. We were told by the Executive of this so-called Southern Confederacy that it was intended to respect the position which Kentucky had assumed for herself by a majority of her people. The men of Kentucky never denied the authority yet of the National Government to occupy the soil of their State for military purposes. They only requested that it might not be so occupied. To all her obligations, whatever the Constitution imposes on her, she in her sovereign capacity, through her representatives in the State Legislature, by her delegates in Convention, has always cheerfully submitted, and has always expressed her readiness to act up to them. By many, through the proclamation issued by the Eecutive of our State, our position was misunderstood. That proclamation was denounced by the Legislature. Now, Sir, we have this most express proposition laid before us—we were told by the missionaries of peace, by the diplomatic couriers commissioned by the Executive of Kentucky, two of whom were sent to the Executive of the Government of the United States, and one to the President of the Southern Confederacy, and whose instructions were to ascertain what was to be done with Kentucky—on one side we were told that the President of the United States intended to obey the Constitution and laws of the United States, and to execute them in accordance with what he believed was the will of the majority of the people; the other said that he intended to regard and respect this new parody of a Government, which it was understood the secession party had made. There was no promise to support the Union. Nor did the President of this so-called Southern Confederacy tell the people of Kentucky of an organized, arranged plan, to invade that State simultaneously in three undefended points. He did not tell us that he had a law placed on the statute book, in secret session, for providing men and means not to sustain Kentucky against oppression, but to conquer her, and to carry her into the Southern Confederacy against the will of a two-third majority of her people. Now, Sir, we of Kentucky are placed in this seemingly hostile situation by but one-fourth of the State, acting under the provisional government of GEORGE W. JOHNSON, sent to represent the Government at Richmond. It was then that BURNETT got up this Convention, composed of the young, and reckless, and desperate men who were already in arms under this man BUCKNER. In the country where I live, representatives and delegates from this Convention expressed and carried abroad the idea that the Union men of Kentucky were oppressing and depriving the people of their rights and property. Now, Sir, as this resolution purposes to strike my colleague off the roll, it is hardly necessary for me to inform this House and the nation of the manner in which this revolutionary Convention was organized. The men composing it were in open rebellion against the Government. They were soldiers, picked up in the camps at Bowling Green and other places, to represent to the loyal men of the State, who were true to the Government, that their safety, and homes, and lives were in danger by the acts of the Legislature. I have been, Sir, amused, and at the same time distressed, at finding men, when loyal troops entered the State, running away from their home, for fear of being imprisoned. I witnessed a scene in the Federal Court at Nashville, in which a late Judge of that State figured. That Judge, Sir, fled for fear of a prison, when no man thought of imprisoning him. He might, indeed, have been deposed from his office for malfeasance, but none thought of proceeding against him. The Legislature had proclaimed, in a spirit of magnanimity and justice, that those who had been taken up for opinion's sake should be released. It declared that those who had deemed it their duty and the duty of Kentucky to make war against the United States, on laying down their arms and other opposition, should be pardoned. It declared that bygones should be bygones, so that harmony and peace might once again reign among us. Many of the safe and sound men of Kentucky have thus acted. Now that they were on the eve of a great combat to settle the rebellion, they were all for the Union; and, with the blessing of God, and the stout hearts of the people, I predict that not a hostile foot of a rebel will be found treading the soil of Kentucky on the 20th day of December next. [Cries on the floor of "Good," "Good."]

The resolution for the expulsion of Mr. BURNETT was adopted.

On motion of Mr. STRATTON, of New-Jersey, (Rep.,) a resolution was adopted allowing Mr. VERREE, member from the Third District of Pennsylvania, thirty days to take testimony before the Recorder in Philadelphia, nearly the whole time allowed by law having been similarly consumed by Mr. KLINE, who contests his seat. Adjourned.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Dec. 1, 1861.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the annual report of this Department.

The accompanying reports of the chiefs of the several Bureaus present the estimates of the appropriations required for the service of this Department during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1863, and also the appropriations necessary to cover deficiencies in the estimates for 1861-'62:

STRENGTH OF THE ARMY.

The following statement presents the entire estimated strength of the army, both volunteers and regulars:

States.	Volunteers.		
	3 months.	For the war.	Aggregate.
California	....	4,688	4,688
Connecticut	2,236	12,400	14,636
Delaware	775	2,000	2,775
Illinois	4,941	50,000	54,941
Indiana	4,686	57,332	62,018
Iowa	968	19,800	20,768
Kentucky	....	15,000	15,000
Maine	768	14,239	15,007
Maryland	....	7,000	7,000
Massachusetts	3,435	26,760	30,195
Michigan	781	28,550	29,331
Minnesota	....	4,160	4,160
Missouri	9,356	22,130	31,486
New-Hampshire	779	9,600	10,379
New-Jersey	3,068	9,342	12,410
New-York	10,188	100,200	110,388
Ohio	10,236	81,205	91,441
Pennsylvania	19,196	94,760	113,956
Rhode Island	1,285	5,898	7,183
Vermont	780	8,000	8,780
Virginia	779	12,000	12,779
Wisconsin	792	14,153	14,945
Kansas	....	5,000	5,000
Colorado	....	1,000	1,000
Nebraska	....	2,500	2,500
Nevada	....	1,000	1,000
New-Mexico	....	1,000	1,000
District of Columbia	2,823	1,000	3,823
Total	77,875	640,637	718,512
Estimated strength of the regular army, including the new enlistments under act of Congress of July 29, 1861	....	20,334	....
Total	....	660,971	....

The several arms of the service are estimated as follows:

	Vol. troops.	Regulars	Aggte.
Infantry	557,208	11,175	568,383
Cavalry	54,654	4,744	59,398
Artillery	20,380	4,308	24,688
Rifles and sharpshooters	8,395	.....	8,395
Engineers	.....	107	107
Total	640,637	20,334	660,971

APPROPRIATIONS FOR NEXT YEAR.

The appropriations asked for the service of the next fiscal year are computed for a force of 500,000 men. They have been reduced to the lowest possible amount consistent with the public interests, and are based upon a strictly economical administration of the various branches of this Department.

The appropriations to cover deficiencies are rendered necessary by the excess of the force in the field over that upon which the estimates were founded, and by extraordinary expenditures connected with the employment and discharge of the three months' contingent.

An item of very heavy expense is the large mounted force which has been organized, equipped and made available since the called session of Congress, and which was not computed for in the estimate. While an increase of cavalry was undoubtedly necessary, it has reached a numerical strength more than adequate to the wants of the service. As it can only be maintained at a great cost, measures will be taken for its gradual reduction.

In organizing our great army, I was effectively aided by the loyal Governors of the different States, and I cheerfully acknowledge the prompt patriotism with which they responded to the call of this Department.

Congress, during its extra session, authorized the army to be increased by the acceptance of a volunteer force of 500,000 men, and made an appropriation of five hundred millions of dollars for its support. A call for the troops was immediately made; but so numerous were the offers that it was found difficult to discriminate in the choice, where the patriotism of the people demanded that there should be no restriction upon enlistments. Every portion of the loyal States desired to swell the army, and every community was anxious that it should be represented in a cause that appealed to the noblest impulses of our people.

So thoroughly aroused was the national heart, that I have no doubt this force would have been swollen to a million, had not the Department felt compelled to restrict it, in the absence of authority from the representatives of the people to increase the limited number. It will be for Congress to decide whether the army shall be further augmented, with a view to a more speedy termination of the war, or whether it shall be confined to the strength already fixed by law. In the latter case, with the object of reducing the volunteer force to 500,000, I propose, with the consent of Congress, to consolidate such of the regiments as may from time to time fall below the regulation standard. The adoption of this measure will decrease the number of officers, and proportionably diminish the expenses of the army.

COMPARATIVE STRENGTH OF THE ARMY.

It is said of NAPOLEON by JOMINI that, in the campaign of 1815, that great General, on the 1st of April, had a regular army of 200,000 men. On the 1st of June, he had increased this force to 414,000. The proportion, adds JOMINI, "had he thought proper to inaugurate a vast system of defence, would have raised it to 700,000 men by the 1st of September." At the commencement of this rebellion, inaugurated by the attack upon Fort Sumter, the entire military force at the disposal of this Government was 16,000 regulars, principally employed in the West, to hold in check marauding Indians. In April, 75,000 volunteers were called upon to enlist for three months' service, and responded with such alacrity that 77,875 were immediately obtained. Under the authority of the act of Congress of July 22, 1861, the States were asked to furnish 500,000 volunteers to serve for three years, or during the war; and by the act approved the 29th of the same month, the addition of 25,000 men to the regular army of the United States was authorized. The result is, that we have now an army of upwards of 600,000 men. If we add to this the number of the discharged three months' volunteers, the aggregate force furnished to the Government since April last exceeds 700,000 men.

We have here an evidence of the wonderful strength of our institutions. Without conscriptions, levies, drafts, or other extraordinary expedients, we have raised a greater force than that which, gathered by NAPOLEON with the aid of all these appliances, was considered an evidence of his wonderful genius and energy, and of the military spirit of the French nation. Here every man has an interest in the Government, and rushes to its defence when dangers beset it.

By reference to the records of the Revolution it will be seen that Massachusetts, with a population of 350,000, had at one time 56,000 troops in the field, or over one-sixth of her entire people—a force greatly exceeding the whole number of troops furnished by all the Southern States during that war. Should the present loyal States furnish troops in like proportion, which undoubtedly would be the case should any emergency demand it, the Government could promptly put into the field an army of over three millions.

DISCIPLINE.

It gives me great satisfaction to refer to the creditable degree of discipline of our troops, most of whom were, but a short time since, engaged in the pursuits of peace. They are rapidly attaining an efficiency which cannot fail to bring success to our arms. Officers and men alike evince an earnest desire to accomplish themselves in every duty of the camp and field, and the various corps are animated by an emulation to excel each other in soldierly qualities.

EXTENT OF THE CONSPIRACY.

The conspiracy against the Government extended over an area of 733,144 square miles, possessing a coast line of 3,523 miles, and a shore line of 25,414 miles, with an interior boundary line of 7,031 miles in length. This conspiracy stripped us of arms and munitions, and scattered our navy to the most distant quarters of the globe. The effort to restore the Union, which the Government entered on in April last, was the most gigantic endeavor in the history of civil war. The interval of seven months has been spent in preparation.

HISTORY OF THE REBELLION.

The history of this rebellion, in common with all others, for obvious causes, records the first successes in favor of the insurgents. The disaster of Bull Run was but the natural consequence of the premature advance of our brave but undisciplined troops, which the impatience of the country demanded. The betrayal also of our movements by traitors in our midst enabled the rebels to choose and intrench their position, and by a reinforcement in great strength, at the moment of victory, to snatch it from our grasp. This reverse, however, gave no discouragement to our gallant people; they have crowded into our ranks, and although large numbers have been necessarily rejected, a mighty army in invincible array stands eager to precipitate itself upon the foe. The check that we have received upon the Potomac has, therefore, but postponed the campaign for a few months. The other successes of the rebels, though dearly won, were mere affairs, with no important or permanent advantages. The possession of Western Virginia and the occupation of Hatteras and Beaufort have nobly redeemed our transient reverses.

At the date of my last report the States of Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri were threatened with rebellion. In Delaware, the good sense and patriotism of the people have triumphed over the unholy schemes of traitors. The people of Kentucky early announced themselves, by an unequivocal declaration at the ballot-box, in favor of the Union; and Maryland, notwithstanding the efforts of bad men in power in the city of Baltimore, when the opportunity of a general election was afforded, under the lead of her brave and patriotic Governor, rebuked by an overwhelming majority the traitors who would have led her to destruction. In Missouri, a loyal State Government has been established by the people, thousands of whom have rallied to the support of the Federal authority, and, in conjunction with troops from other portions of the country, have forced the rebels to retire into the adjoining State. The Government established in Virginia by the loyal portion of her population is in successful operation, and I have no doubt will be sustained by the people of the entire State whenever the thraldom of the rebel forces shall have been removed.

Thus has it been made clearly apparent that in whatever direction the forces of the Union have extended their protection, the repressed loyalty of the people, irresistibly manifesting itself, has aided to restore and maintain the authority of the Government; and I doubt not that the army now assembled on the banks of the Potomac will, under its able leader, soon make such a demonstration as will establish its authority throughout all the rebellious States.

The loyal Governor of Virginia is proceeding to organize Courts under the Constitution and laws of the State in all her Eastern counties in the occupation of our troops. I respectfully suggest that authority should be given to the President to send commissioners with the army, with power to exercise all the functions of local government wherever the civil authority has ceased to exist, and especially to enforce the obligations of contracts, and the collection of debts due to loyal creditors.

SUPPLY OF ARMS.

As stated in my last Report, at the commencement of this rebellion the Government found itself deficient in arms and munitions of war, through the bad faith of those intrusted with their control during the preceding Administration. The armory at Harper's Ferry having been destroyed to prevent its possession and use by the rebels, the Government was compelled to rely upon the single armory at Springfield, and upon private establishments, for a supply of arms. Every effort has been made to increase the capacity of that armory, the greatest product of which, prior to these troubles, had never exceeded 800 muskets per month. In charge of an energetic and able Ordnance officer, the force being doubled, and operations vigorously prosecuted day and night, there were made at this establishment, during the past month of October, a total of 6,900 muskets; and it is confidently expected that 10,000 will be manufactured during the present month. On a recent visit, with a view to present month. On a recent visit, with a view to enlarge the capacity of the armory, I directed the pur-

[Continued on Eighth Page.]

THE REBELLION.

How to Reason with the South—How to Deal with the Slavery Question.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, November 28, 1861.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Those who say that the people of the South can never be made to submit to the Government are either repeating a cant phrase without meaning anything more than that their personal sympathies are with the rebels, or they forget what a different thing is the submission of a people struggling against a cruel despotism, from the submission of a people merely unwilling, as a matter of feeling, to return to an old habit of self-government, under a few general laws, in the making of which they themselves were consulted, and had a fair and honest part, and under which they have for many years enjoyed great freedom and light taxation. The case of the Irish, the Hindoos, the Poles, and the Hungarians, was very different from this, and it, after long years of desperate resistance, their submission to a foreign force seems to have been somewhat reluctant and imperfect it found not the slightest ground for assuming that our own misguided citizens will never accept peace under their old and honored flag, as soon as certain delusions by which they are still influenced have been dispelled.

The rebellion is justified at the South under the name of revolution. Thousands of men are fighting for it now, who, a year ago, denounced the movements which initiated it, as criminal. What justifies a revolution, and what makes rebellion criminal? Success, or the prospect of success. It was confidence in the military force of the Slave States, as compared with the Free, then, that turned the scale, and alone made rebellion formidable. "Revolution" sinks to "rebellion" again when this confidence is destroyed, and thousands now fighting for it will then again denounce persistence in it as criminal.

One of the delusions which has led to the false estimate of the comparative power of the rebels and of the Government, which prevails at the South, is that of the anarchical condition of the Free States, and the military feebleness of the Government so far as it is dependent on them. The habit of using arbitrary authority reduces the capacity of sympathy, and our power of understanding men's motives and characters is proportionate to our ability to sympathize with them. The state of society in the Free States is very different from that in the South, and there is nothing to which men adapt their habits of thought with more difficulty than social conditions to which they are unaccustomed. Of this, the English writers, in their comments on our affairs, give no infrequent evidence in their habitual assumption that there necessarily must be something in this country corresponding, though in a diluted form, to their gentry and peasantry, with an intermediate stratum, poor relation to the one, and jealous, contemptuous, timorous neighbor to the other. They cannot get the notion out of their minds, that, in some way, class interests are acting one against another, or, one in combination with another, in all our politics. Much less easily can the Southerners be freed from the idea that where there is so much industry there must be a master class and a servile class, the one more or less wisely caring for government as the safeguard of property, the other regarding government inimically, as a social power by means of which they are kept under control, and which it is consequently their interest to weaken as much as possible. The intelligent slaveholder appreciates even less than the Englishman, therefore, that deep-seated, unconscious and instinctive conservatism, formed in the habits of a people where the status of a man is never felt to be fixed, which in moments of peril places a sudden feminine strength at the disposal of the agents of Government, such as no mere ruler over a land ever possessed, and which is the natural compensation of that very dependence of the government upon the will of the governed, that renders it powerless for many purposes readily assumed by rulers of weaker nations, more pompously powerful and ostentatiously dignified.

The thick habit, however, under which the slaveholders have been led to doubt and defy the strength of the gathering tempest of our Northern loyalty, is already worn with a conscious awkwardness under their recent experiences. This is plainly shown in the disgraceful falsehoods to which DAVIS, BEAUREGARD, and others who labor to control public opinion at the South, are driven, in their efforts to maintain the impression that the Union army has been mainly formed of hireling foreigners, and that it is incited only by lust and greed. This new delusion, if it prevails at all, is far less formidable than that which it is intended to fortify, namely: that diffusion of power is absence of power; diffusion of patriotism, want of patriotism; and that weakness of the agents of Government is equivalent to weakness of Government itself.

The cupidity and baseness of England is another delusion which is being slowly relinquished at the South. England has ever talked little and done much. Now she talks much because, though the necessarily slow process of our war costs her sore, she has the heart to do nothing to establish a nation on a basis which, above all other things, she hates. The blockade is no longer laughed at in the South.

A minor delusion has been that ships could do little against shore batteries. Hatteras and Port Royal have effectually dispelled that, as the evacuation of Tybee satisfactorily informs us.

The grandest delusion of all, industriously fostered by many public teachers of the South, and discountenanced during the last twenty years by few, until, absurd as it may seem to us, a generation has almost grown in its habit, is, that slaves are a source of military strength to those who possess them. Till now, the war has been mainly carried on by Government as if it had been for our interest, as perhaps it has been, to strengthen this delusion. While thousands of negroes have been employed to resist the enforcement of the laws, all use of them in sustaining their supremacy has been as much as possible avoided.

In the conduct of the slaves at Port Royal, if our information can be trusted, the South is presented with the first tangible evidence of the *essential weakness of this main prop of the rebellion*. Government had offered no inducement for the slaves to desert, had offered them no protection. There is in all the South no other district in which the slaves were less likely to be intelligently informed, or where they could as easily have been deceived as to the motives of the attacking force. The fact, therefore, that when the forts were taken, the slaves refused to withdraw from the vicinity with their masters, and that numbers of them were shot down in the vain attempt to prevent their falling into our hands, is of more value in demonstrating to the people of the South the futility of the struggle into which they have been inveigled, than all else that has been as yet accomplished by our arms.

Negroes in the rebel States are property, and, as property, are the very sinews of the rebellion. The occurrences at Port Royal indicate that, at least whenever our forces penetrate the rebel States, it is in our power to sever these sinews, and by so much destroy the strength of the rebellion. For the sake of our friends in Kentucky and Maryland, we may spend a few hundred millions before we systematically use this power, but we cannot avoid estimating its value and availability. Nor can the rebels flatter themselves that we shall yield them independence before we have made use of it.

The use of slaves as property depends on the degree in which their services are controllable. This control is never perfect; if it was, there would have been no need of the whip, no need of the Fugitive Slave law, no need of discountenancing the instruction of slaves in the common arts of writing and reading. There is always more or less of what the overseers call "ugliness," or resistance to control, to be overcome and to be guarded against. On a large plantation some of "the people" are almost always "out," or "in the swamp;" that is to say, they have, through insubordination, carelessness, or sheer indolence, or disinclination to work, incurred the prospect of punishment, and have hid themselves away to avoid it. In doing this they have no hope before them of attaining permanent freedom, but only a respite from Slavery. They reason, as has often been explained to me, that whenever they are caught or choose to return, the punishment they will receive for running away cannot be much heavier than that they would have received for the previous offence, without injuring their value as property. They would use the proverb, 'It is as well to be *paddled* for a sheep as for a lamb." If even a remote chance of escaping punishment altogether is seen by the slave, he often seizes it with a spirit, which, in a slave, is wonderful and admirable. It not unfrequently appears in the advertisements of Mississippi, that a runaway is supposed to be "making for the Free States," hundreds of miles distant; and I have seen a fugitive in Mexico who had felt his weary way thither, at what enormous risks I need not say, clear from Louisiana. If Government should take possession of certain districts of the South, or even mere fortified points at convenient distances around the planting region, as at Wilmington, Hilton Head, Fernandina, Pensacola, Bayou Calcasieu, Galveston, San Antonio, Fort Smith and the mountain passes of Kentucky and Tennessee, and should offer at all of these a safe harbor for all negroes, there can be no doubt that slave property throughout the South would become rapidly less controllable than it is at present, and as rapidly less valuable.

That a knowledge of these asylums would soon reach every plantation is quite certain. I have often been told by planters in the interior that information of important National events had reached them through the negroes long before it came by mail.

It is not to be supposed, however, that all the slaves would at once run to obtain the protection of these sanctuaries of freedom, but while thousands would do so, all would have such a resort in view and be affected by it in their daily conduct, and thus sensibly deteriorate in value. Not only would they fall in their accustomed tasks in the fields; they would, while still remaining on the plantations, pilfer and waste and carelessly and mischievously damage much other property besides that of their own labor. A hostile force would thus invade the enemy in his very stronghold. With every negro who ran away and escaped immediate pursuit, the tendency to disregard control among those remaining would increase in strength.

The need to call back from the army every active, strong, and resolute man, would be less imperative, for the pursuit of the actual fugitive than for the overseeing of those of feebler enterprise who remained behind.

Organized insurrections and St. Domingo massacres are not, in my judgment, to be apprehended under any circumstances. The slaves are neither as savage, nor as civilized as those who entertain this fear suppose. But, whatever danger of this kind there may be, there will be less, if a prospect is offered those more discontented of escaping from their masters by flight, and the measure that will present such a prospect to them will set on foot a quiet and inactive method of exhausting the effective resources of the rebellion, which will increase and become more and more irresistible, the longer all other methods of attack are incompletely successful.

It is unquestionably in the power of our Government to do all that I have suggested; and probably at a tenth of the cost of our present operations, such posts could be constantly held, and the fugitives reaching them be safely and humanely cared for. Suppose we are unsuccessful in our advances into the interior of the South, while this depleting and demoralizing process continued, and only otherwise successful in resisting invasion of the Free States and in maintaining the blockade, with what confidence of success would the rebellion continue? Where would be the military strength founded in Slavery?

But the instigators of the rebellion say that they can make their slaves fight for them, and several negro regiments are reported to be now enrolling. In the construction of their earthworks, military roads, &c., it is known that the rebels employ many slaves. The African nature inclines to the pomp and circumstance of war, and yields more readily and completely to discipline than any other in this country. By taking advantage of the disposition of the negro to imitate, and where practicable, to emulate, the whites, and by working upon his vanity and love of approbation he can doubtless be rapidly brought to a high condition of drill and discipline. But he would be a far better soldier on our side than on theirs. On theirs it is impossible that he should not be affected by the constant assertion of the Southern camps, that the Licolnites are fighting for the negro. On ours it is equally impossible that he should not be affected by the knowledge that to surrender would be to him death, or hopeless Slavery. Placing him under martial discipline, is not offering encouragement to the horrors of a servile war, but exactly the contrary. It is preventing a servile, by substituting a civilized war. There are many military duties to be undertaken in which negroes, properly trained and officered, would be far better than white soldiers. Even if the rebels had not set us the example, then, the provision against which they hypocritically cry out in advance, for forming regiments of their black deserters, to be turned back threateningly upon them, is not merely a justifiable act of war, but is in all respects a humane and honorable one.

The best reason for it, however, is the effect it would have in aiding the removal of the delusion out of which the war has partly grown, namely: that the peculiar property which the South holds gives the right of revolution to a wicked rebellion, by supplying peculiar means of offence and defence. Whatever will prove to the Southerners that the advantages they suppose themselves to hold are common to all who enter their territory in arms, will not merely tend to make the war shorter and cheaper, but will also tend to enforce the necessity for a policy in peace upon them, the neglect of which hitherto has been the foundation of all their political troubles. YEOMAN.

The Mason and Slidell Affair.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

SIR: The importance of the MASON and SLIDELL case will excuse me for troubling you with a few remarks.

I take the charge of Judge NELSON, in the recent privateer case, as my authority for assuming that *the official declaration of the Government is essential to the consideration of the Secessionists as belligerents by United States law.*

No such declaration has been made, therefore we are not in *time of war*, but in time of domestic rebellion.

Can the United States, then, plead the right of performing acts, legitimately *in time of war?*

But, inasmuch as the Government have not declared the Secessionists to be belligerent, MASON and SLIDELL had no official character in the eye of the United States law. Search did not prove them to be bearers of dispatches.

Having no official character, and bearing no dispatches, can they be regarded by the United States law as other than simple passengers?

If only passengers on board a foreign steamer at sea, I apprehend that the fact of having been political offenders or rebellious citizens, in their own country, does not confer upon the Government of their country the right of seizure.

I do not enter upon the point of the *Trent* having been bound to a neutral port from another neutral port, when the seizure was made.

Your obedient servant, G.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 2, 1861.

AFFAIRS IN MISSOURI.

The Operations of Col. Jennison—The Affair at Pleasant Hill—Encampment at Kansas City—Col. Jennison's Method of Dealing with the Rebels, &c.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

CAMP KAGE, KANSAS CITY, MO., Sunday, Nov. 24, 1861.

My last letter was dated at Pleasant Hill, Cass County. Col. ANTHONY'S command left that place on Thursday morning. Having secured of the Government property 470 head of cattle and 32 wagons, the Colonel considered it advisable to make that secure before undertaking to drive out of the bush the four or five hundred rebels who had taken to the timber on learning of our approach. During our stay in the village our pickets shot six rebel scouts who fired upon them, secured some fifteen horses belonging to those who were shot and men in the timber, number of arms and saddles taken from the National troops who were ambushed a month since on the Little Blue. Seven prisoners were brought away. On the return march, on advance drove a party of fifty rebels to the woods. Another man being in the woods was shot at from behind by a man armed with a double-barreled shot-gun. The first fire failed of its mark, the second missed, and before the rebel could load again, our boy brought him down. From papers found in his greatcoat, his name appears to be FRANCIS B. LACY, of Independence.

We camped for the night about four miles from Pleasant Hill. The encampment was named Camp Barclay Coppic, in honor of the young Lieutenant of the Third Regiment Kansas Volunteers, who was killed at the burning of the Platte Bridge, on the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad. He was one of the followers of JOHN BROWN at Harper's Ferry, and made his escape therefrom. His brother, EDWIN COPPIC, was executed by Virginia for the same act.

On the second day, two companies were detached to reconnoiter in the neighborhood of the fight two weeks after. Every man in the vicinity being found absent from home, and most of them known to be active in the guerrilla bands prowling about, the buildings of three of them were burnt to the ground. The same men two days before drove out four Union families. Two other families were driven out from ten miles below Pleasant Hill, and came to the command for protection. They only secured a half wagon load of furniture, and four milch cows, out of some eighty head of stock. This is but a slight specimen of the manner in which the Union people have been treated by the robbers and assassins who are prowling around the country. The officers of this command are determined to compel these marauding bands to come out of the bush and fight, or go home to attend their families. There is no possibility of fighting them in the bush, and they will not lay down their arms, so the only resource left is to confiscate their property and put the women and children in a condition to need the services of the men now away.

In pursuance of this policy, which is endorsed by all the active Union men in the country, some five houses and farm-buildings were burned. Four scouts of Company E, incautiously run into Little Santa Fé, a town three miles west of our route, which has been made infamous by the notorious Oxford fraud, in the election of '57. Oxford is the name of the township on the Kansas side of the State line, though this hole was really the place where the fraud was perpetrated. The village contains some twenty buildings. When our scouts run in, they found themselves trapped by fifty men. They were dismounted and disarmed. The rebels hardly had time to do this ere Company H came in sight, on the double-quick, and the rebels broke for the timber. One man was shot as he ran. The farrier of the Company, TOM BARBER, ran into the brush after one of them, and found himself suddenly confronted by two, who fired their pistols at him; but missed. One of them sprung at the farrier's horse, the other on him. BARBER shot the one at the horse's head, pulling the other down upon his horse's back, and shooting him at the same time. His horse fell down and bruised him considerably, which was the only injury he received. Capt. PARDEE then fired the town in all directions, and left. We reached Kansas City early, and camped near Fort Union. The new camp was named after another of the Harper's Ferry men, the second in command of that memorable expedition—JOHN HENRY KAGI—who was shot in the Shenandoah, while crossing from HALL'S Rifle Works. KAGI was, while in Kansas, correspondent of the *Evening Post* and *National Era*. He was one of the ablest young men we ever had in Kansas, and decidedly the ablest head in the movement in which he lost his life. Many of the members of this regiment are the former associates of the men who fell in Virginia, in that heroic attack on Slavery which shook this nation to the centre.

Col. JENNISON has been in command of the post here, while the larger portion of the command was South. He has been making the neighborhood somewhat uncomfortable to the Secessionists. Most of the wealthy men in this place are of secession proclivities, and many of them are active, though secret agents of the rebels. The Colonel sent to request their attendance at headquarters. When there he informed them of the character of their actions, and informed them he required certain work done round camp, and meant to save his men as much. They were then set at fatigue duty, such as hauling hay, corn, wood and water, chopping wood, etc. Among the individuals thus set to work were doctors, lawyers and judges. Wanting to send a message safely to Pleasant Hill, he ordered Judge JAMES, a violent Secessionist, and formerly a National office-holder, to carry it, telling him he should hold his property responsible for the safe delivery of the message. The old man hired a team, drove through to Pleasant Hill, finding we were gone, he followed so rapidly as to lame his team. This morning, a man who had been engaged in the early part of the war in erecting a pole and hoisting a secession flag, since then he has been boisterous in the expression of sentiment, was brought to headquarters, and sent to chopping wood for the stove. Complaining of not knowing how, he was treated with a negro teacher.

Company "K," (raised by Capt. JOHN BROWN, Jr.,) have been doing post duty. Twenty five of them, under Lieut. BOSTWICK and Capt. BURCHARD, of the Scouts, were sent out last Wednesday to the house of Col. UP. HAYS, to search for arms, and to burn the buildings of every man in that neighborhood known to be in arms and found away from home. The house of UP. HAYS, a Mr. CRAIG'S and one other, were burned. The party then went to the house of SAMUEL HAYS. While the officers were in the house, which was about sixty rods from the road, they came out on the piazza, and as they did, were fired upon by fifty men concealed in the corn field. The officers were not injured, except a flesh wound over the eye of Capt. BURCHARD. Mr. HAYS fell mortally wounded. The officers run through to their horses, and as they ran round were fired upon again. BOSTWICK'S horse fell with two bullets. They got back to the road, and returning the fire of the first party, discovered another party advancing from the west. The guides, who had ridden to the east, were fired upon by another ambushed party. Thus the little party found themselves surrounded on three sides. As long as it was possible they returned the rebel fire, but finding them being enclosed, by order of Lieut. BOSTWICK they broke for the timber. Five rebels were killed, and eight wounded. None of our boys were hurt except two slight flesh wounds on the officers. Two horses were killed. Another party was sent to the house of Rev. TOM JOHNSON, formerly Missionary of the Shawnee Indians, and Ex-President of the Council of the bogus Kansas Legislature. He was one of the most violent and influential of the border ruffians, and though too cowardly to fight, has many crimes to answer that at least he incited. A small secession flag was found, and in his corn-field was discovered, buried, two blankets and two revolvers, that had belonged to National soldiers, who, it is reported, were murdered by JENNISON'S sons. The secession bugler sat down on the piano, at which one of the Miss JOHNSON'S was playing secession tunes, and played an accompaniment to a loyal version of Dixie, which was sung by the party. They then sung the John Brown song. It was a species of poetical justice, which needs a Kansas experience to appreciate fully.

The following documents deserve a place in the archieves of this war. They speak for themselves. The first is a plan for a

LOYAL CITIZENS' ORGANIZATION.

We, the undersigned loyal citizens of the United States and of the County of Jackson in the State of Missouri, for the purpose of securing to ourselves and neighbors security in person and propelty, and in order to suppress all treasonable and other criminal organizations within this county or vicinity, do hereby enroll ourselves into a Home Guard, holding ourselves amenable to the military authority of the United States, and of the State of Missouri, and pledging our utmost exertions to maintain its authority against all combinations.

It is expressly understood that we are not to be required, without our unanimous consent, to go out of this State.

The second is intended for the benefit of the secret foes of the Union—men like those whom Col. JENNISON has been employing in the "New Manual Labor School," as the boys facetiously term the camp. It is appropriately named the

DEED OF FORFEITURE.

STATE OF MISSOURI, ss.—We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do hereby in consideration and for the purpose of securing the safety of persons and property, and of suppressing, in this State, the rebellion against the Government of the United States, each for himself, pledge in security for our loyalty, all and singular our property, real, personal and mixed, including present and future acquisitions, and do hereby grant, bargain, sell and deliver to the Government of the United States, all and singular our said property, to have and to hold the same unto the said Government of the United States and her assigns forever.

This conveyance is to be void upon the following conditions, to wit: That we shall each preserve and maintain, at all times, good faith and loyalty towards the said Government of the United States, and at all times furnish to its officers and agents all information in our possession, or knowledge of value to the Government, or of detriment to the rebel enemy, and promptly report to the Government authorities all persons known to be engaged in disseminating treasonable doctrines, making war themselves, or encouraging others to make war on the Government of the United States; and, further, that we, nor either of us will, by word or deed, give any advice, information aid or comfort to the said rebel emissaries of the Government, and known as secessionists. This conveyance is made by us freely and in good faith for the purposes aforesaid, and without any compulsion.

In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals at the date set opposite our names respectively.

Nov. —, A. D. 1861.

The third document was sent to the camp of UP. HAYS, as the only terms to which Col. JENNISON would agree, by the hands of a released prisoner who shined the deed of forfeiture:

PROPOSITIONS

To the armed bands now in arms against the Government of the United States, in the above-named counties, and who will surrender their arms and ammunition to me, and deliver to me all the Government property which is in their possession and under their control, within a reasonable time, and shall sign the deed of forfeiture, a copy of which is herewith inclosed, and shall hereafter perform their duty as good and loyal citizens, shall not be held responsible for past acts of rebellion, but shall be protected in their lives and property.

2. Arms which are thus surrendered to me shall be stored and taken account of, so that when present difficulties are settled the owners thereof can obtain them.

3. Persons who shall surrender themselves to me, in order to make arrangements for securing peace to their neighborhoods, shall be respected in their rights while arranging or attempting to arrange any terms, and shall be allowed to go into their homes, even should we, after a conference, fail to come to any arrangements or understanding.

4. All who shall disregard these propositions, and shall continue in armed rebellion against the Government of the United States, shall be treated as traitors, and slain wherever found; their property shall be confiscated and their houses burned, and in no case will any be spared, either in person or property, who refuses to accept these propositions.

C. R. JENNISON, Colonel,
Commanding First Regiment Cavalry, K. V.

Several outrageous cases of disorder and robbery having occurred since the regiment left Fort Leavenworth, Col. JENNISON determined to make an example of the first man against whom offences could be proved. On Friday night, when the command came into town, a number of men managed to evade the guard and get down to the saloons. Three men, an American, Irishman and Mexican, broke into a German hotel, smashed the windows, fired their revolvers, grossly insulted two young girls, stole a watch, some whisky, and took all the change from the till. They went to another house, and insulted a lady in the same way. The ladies entered a complaint, and a court of inquiry was ordered. The Mexican was identified, and the charge proved against him conclusively. By order of Col. JENNISON he was shot this morning at 9 o'clock. He confessed the crime, and died without emotion. The whole regiment was ordered on parade, and addressed by the Colonel. He stated the crime with which the man was charged, stated the necessity of discipline, and expressed his determination to obtain it, cost what it might. It was, he said, unworthy of soldiers and men, engaged in so holy a war, and supporting ideas so glorious, be convicted of such a crime. If it was allowed to go unpunished, the wives and daughters and sisters of no man would be safe from ruffian violence. For the sake of the regiment, as well as for his own reputation, he had ordered this man to be shot. Thus whisky had caused the death of a man who, when sober, was a brave and dutiful soldier. He regretted the necessity, but it must be done.

Five men were then detailed from each company, the guns of two of whom were loaded with ball-cartridges, the others with blank, by the Colonel, so that none knew who fired the fatal shots. The doomed man fell with a dozen balls in him. His name was JOSEPH RAMON.

Last night a man belonging to Company D, who was found outside of camp by the patrol, on being brought up to headquarters refused obedience to Lieut. HUGHES, the officer in command, and drew his revolver upon him. He was instantly shot dead by the Lieutenant. These examples, it is hoped, will have a salutary effect upon the command. I have not seen finer material in the American Army than that of which this regiment is composed. About one-third are the "Old Guard," of Kansas, and the rest are mainly men who came to it because of the reputation of the man who commands Western men with a good share of brains, and used to great freedom of action find considerable difficulty in understanding the necessity of subordination. In fact, this is the difficulty with the American people generally. All claim to be individual sovereigns, and few are yet prepared to accept the fact of a state of war being a virtual despotism to be intelligently accepted, and submitted to for the sake of the higher ends to which it is the means. As in all such bodies, there are a few violent and ruffianly spirits. These, however, will soon be quelled, and once the majority accept obedience as a soldier's first duty, there will not be a finer corps in the service than the First Cavalry Regiment Kansas Volunteers. They will do it, for the officers have the nerve and will to carry out what may be needed.

Affairs in St. Louis Unchanged—The Gunboats Progressing—The Mortar-Boats—Fugitives from Southwest Missouri—Movements of Price, &c.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 29, 1861.

Affairs in the city have undergone little or no change since my last. The work of re-organization is still progressing, but like the growth of plants or the passage of the wind, it is not seen. It is sincerely to be hoped that this time we have a capable chief—one of sufficient merit to stand the test of three or six months service. Thus far, outside of peculations and stealings, affairs in Missouri have consisted mainly, since the death of LYON, in organizing the forces, and immediately afterwards reorganizing them. FREMONT, behind his barricade, "organized" for a few months—HUNTER organized for a brief existence, and now HALLECK is at it again.

If the result only reaches one-half the magnitude of these various "organizings"—if we can only disorganize the rebels to some respectable practical extent of the amount that we have organized our own men, there will not be enough of PRICE'S army left to rob an ordinary hen-roost. But let us have faith and patience—there's nothing like them in cases like the present—in fact, they seem to be about all there is left.

The building of the gunboats is still progressing with tolerable activity, and we are promised that they will all be ready in three weeks at furthest. Two of them have gone down the river to Cairo, the balance will probably have to follow ere long, or else Winter will effectually blockade them till Spring. Even now ice is running heavily in the river at Dubuque and Davenport, and it will not be long before we have the same thing at this place—there is a fortnight's (probably not more) navigation left from this point. However, it is generally believed that within two or three weeks the great expedition will be ready to proceed down the river on its way to "New Orleans *via* Memphis." If it do not get off within that time, it is more than doubtful if it will leave before Spring.

If the ice does not prevent our starting, there are to be other reasons why we may not leave so soon. The gunboats may not be finished, the army may not be reorganized, while PRICE—the wily old rebel—threatens us from so many points, that in view of him and the other contingencies, the start may be indefinitely postponed. In the meantime, while we are being delayed in getting ready, the rebels at Columbus are not idle—they are heaving up formidable breastworks and mounting immense guns to an extent that in a very short time will render them almost impregnable. It will be at least chivalrous to give our secession friends an opportunity to get "good ready" for us—if we conquer them there it will be so much the more glorious.

Another article of offense being constructed here is a fleet of mortar boats. They are ordinary scows, with sides of boiler iron, loop-holed for riflemen, and from their peculiar shape and color, look not unlike a fleet of coffins, minus the lids. They number some forty, and are so built that they can be fastened together and used at any time for bridging purposes. Each will have one heavy mortar, and, if not destroyed before they get into position, will do excellent service. From all appearances, however, their sides will not resist small cannot shot, and a heavy shell, dropping inside, would apparently meet no great resistance till they reached the bottom of the river. A few, perhaps one-fourth, are nearly finished—the balance will be finished in from nine to twelve years, provided the four or five men, whom I saw at work on them yesterday, stick with reasonable steadiness at their business. Four men trying to construct thirty mortar boats may seem preposterous—yet, if other matters in this section progress in the future at the same rate they have in the past, the men will have finished the boats long before they are needed.

Every day brings arrivals from all parts of the West and Southwest—men, women and children, whose numbers are not scores but thousands; people who are fleeing to secure the poor boon of life. It is all that many have brought with them—their homes and possessions they left behind them. They fled by the light of their own burning dwellings, and now are houseless, homeless, and many starving. Would it not be well if Congress, when it votes that appropriation to "starving Ireland," should include a few dollars for the beggared patriots who have fled from the friends of secession? No doubt, considering the peculiar attitude of England towards America, that it would be a masterpiece of policy to do something for her famishing subjects in oppressed Ireland, but it would be God-like benevolence to assist our own starving subjects at the same time. Policy and humanity might in this case go hand in hand—the former having reference to Ireland, the latter to Missouri.

Yesterday there was an arrival of fugitives from Lexington—Lexington, whose soil opened beneath the feet of so many of our brave men, and hid them forever—Lexington, which made heroes of some, lecturers of others, and which covered the National arms with glory. Maj. MARTIN—the gentleman who so hospitably entertained your correspondent during his sojourn there in September—has returned from PRICE'S army, with a force of several hundred men, and driven everything in the shapes of loyalty from the country. He also seized upon some boats near the place, and is holding them for the transportation of troops across the river. It is the opinion of those who have left there that the Confederates intend to proceed north, take possession of the West and of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad—tear up the track so as to prevent reinforcements and then turn their attention to Kansas and dispose of that clumsy State at their leisure.

Without pretending to indorse the justice of the thing, I will say, that in the almost unanimous estimation of Union people in Missouri, it would be considered a blessing if the Confederates or some others, should exterminate the banditti, who, under the Union flag, are robbing and murdering alike, loyalist and rebel, in Western Missouri.

The number of Union men that has fled from that section to escape the tender mercies of their friends is about equal to that which has left at the instigation of my quondam friend, the Major. JENNISON, according to all accounts, is carrying out the war right royally—that is, making himself General, Judge and Executioner—taking niggers always, other property invariably when valuable, and using sword, torch and rope indiscriminately. It is about time that these modern Cow-Boys are extinguished, if we do not wish to smother forever the few sparks of loyalty yet remaining in Missouri.

I took a run out to Sedalia yesterday, and found everything undergoing a pretty general "scare." It was believed by many that PRICE was advancing upon them with an immense force, and to meet this emergency due preparations were made. Strong pickets were thrown out in every direction, the troops held in constant readiness for attack, and all the Government stores loaded upon the cars to expedite matters in case matters rendered a retreat necessary. The whole trouble, probably, proceeded from the simple circumstance that roving bands of PRICE'S army have crossed the Osage at Warsaw, Osceola, and on intermediate point, and are now spread over the rich country between the Osage and Mississippi, engaged in hunting food and forage. They have advanced in some cases as near as two miles to Sedalia, and are scattered in small squads in many directions, shooting and robbing Union citizens, and taking occasional long shots from the "brush" at such of our soldiers as may venture too far from their camps. I am satisfied that the main body of PRICE'S army is not within a hundred miles of Sedalia, nor will it be likely to be until the withdrawal of our forces. PRICE is probably too sharp to allow himself to be caught north of the Osage at the present time—he has only sent over small parties to forage, while he himself, south of the river, awaits in security of the developments of the future. Sedalia has now about 6,000 men—there is a small force at Georgetown, some at Otterville, a strong force at Yamisse Bridge, while the main body is at Tipton. The distance is not so great but that in case PRICE should cross the Osage to give battle, our men could be concentrated in time to meet him at any given point. Another move of PRICE'S is probably to embarrass operations in the direction of Memphis. He undoubtedly hopes, by hanging around and threatening the National forces, to prevent the withdrawal of any considerable number to any other point, and possibly, in this respect, he may meet with a certain amount of success. The health of the troops along the line of the road is very good, although there are a good many cases of measles and a few of fever.

Gen. FREMONT left here day before yesterday. His departure was unattended by any demonstrations of any importance whatever. A few of his friends attended him across the river, and bade him a good eye in the usual manner, by making a speech. He succeeded in burying a brilliant repupation so deep and securely here that were the efforts of the *Tribune* to disentomb it, it will scarcely disturb the layer of sod which rounds up the grave. Nobody here blames the *Tribune* for what otherwise might be sacrilege, for this is a lesser crime than ingratitude.

St. Louis is doing well in the line of amusements, notwithstanding the character of the times. COUPLOCK is drawing tears as *Luke Fielding*, at the St. Louis, and at half a dozen other places minor celebrities are tickling the public fancy.

Gen. HALLECK is hard at work. He has no state—no *cordon* of body guards—no Californian Cerberi to pass before reaching him.

The appointment of Maj. SCHOFIELD to be a Brigadier-General of the State gives great satisfaction. SCHOFIELD is an Iowan, and was one of the heroes who accompanied LYON on his march to death. He has appointed Col. HARDING as his Adjutant-General.

Nothing has yet been done in the cases of the contractors and others implicated in the late investigation. GALWAY.

JOHN BROWN, JR.'S BOYS IN A FIGHT.

A Kansas City correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune*, under date of Nov. 21, writes:

"Two days since, Col. JENNISON mounted twenty-five of the boys, under command of First Lieut. BOSTWICK. Capt. BURCHARD, Gen. LYON'S scout, who is raising a company for this corps, was also detailed to accompany the party. They were ordered to beat up the neighborhood of the Hays' settlement, which is only eight miles distant. According to orders the buildings of Col. HAYS and two others were burned to the ground. A quantity of arms, horses and 'contrabands' were taken. The party then moved to the house of SAM. HAYS, on the Westport road. This house stands back some sixty rods from the road. Lieut. BOSTWICK, ordering his men to remain in the road with Capt. BURCHARD, rode across to the house to search for arms. They hitched their horses, and entered the building. They passed through with Mr. HAYS, and stepped on the porch. The moment they did so, some fifty men rose in the corn-field a few rods in advance and fired upon them. Both fell, and [illegible] Capt. BURCHARD was not hurt, but [illegible] for their horses, and as they raised their heads, saw their valley was filled into them. Lieut. BOSTWICK'S horse received two balls and fell. Both then succeeded in reaching the road. The boys by this time had returned the Confederate's fire. Only eighteen were armed and ready for the first fire. Within a short distance they were fired upon by an ambushed party numbering about fifty. From the other direction another party of the same size was seen. Thus the little band was almost surrounded by six times their own force. They maintained their ground as long as possible, firing some thirty rounds. They know three were killed, and several wounded. None of our men were wounded. Lieut. BOSTWICK was knocked down by a glancing ball on the forehead and two horses were killed. A lad of 16, employed as messenger by the Colonel, had his hat shot by a ball, but, as he phrased, 'the man who did it was crossing a fence, but he didn't cross any more.' After a while, the Lieutenant ordered the boys to break for the brush. They were followed up sharply. Three of them, closely pursued by twelve, hid themselves in the brush; they were discovered, and a volley fired on them. Not a ball struck, though the dirt was thrown in their faces. Lieut. BOSTWICK rallied and shouted, 'Come on boys!' The rebels fled. The Nationals returned to camp in safety, without further casualty."

GEN. HALLECK AND THE DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI.

From the St. Louis Democrat, Nov. 29.

Maj.-Gen. HALLECK'S vigorous beginnings of the duties of his department, give assurances that he is earnestly aiming to make good his declared purpose of "driving every hostile flag out of the State." He seems to have devoted himself with untiring assiduity to the business before him. A careful examination of several important and comprehensive orders which he has issued, will show that he is aiming to bring the affairs of this department into order and system, and to place the forces under his command in a condition of the highest possible efficiency. In these respects he has not fallen short of the high expectations formed of him.

The condition of matters in this Department was such as to call for the highest ability and skill of the new Commander-in-Chief. That he, Gen. HALLECK has exhibited an energy and determination that properly wins confidence in him as equal to the occasion. The disposition of all loyal men is to rely confidently upon his judgment and capacity, thus rendering to him the weight of their moral influence, which, even in military affairs, is of some value.

He is rapidly becoming acquainted with the extent, disposition and character of his resources, and subjecting all subordinate departments to wholesome regulation. Coming here a stranger, he acts as if he would soon be at home. The labors devolved upon him at the threshold are immense, but there is good reason to feel assured that he is equal to the task of reorganizing the forces under his command, and placing them in a state of thorough preparation for renewed service.

We have heretofore expressed our opinions freely in regard to the "Order No. 3," relating to the negro slaves, and we take this occasion to repeat that in our judgment it is impolitic and mischievous. Many persons suppose that it was in accordance with orders or intimations from his superior. However this may be, the concurrent opinions of very many loyal men who are perfectly conversant with the whole matter, coincide with that which we have expressed. We have no doubt that a short term of observation and experience will satisfy Gen. HALLECK of its impolicy, and cause it to be modified or rescinded.

We are sensible that the public Press should abstain from imprudent discussion or criticism upon military measures. This particular question, however, can be examined in a fair, candid spirit, without detriment to the service.

While we have felt at liberty to say what we thought upon that subject, we have more pleasure in commending the well-directed and energetic labor of Gen. HALLECK.

McCULLOCH'S MOVEMENTS.

A dispatch dated Rolla, Nov. 28, says:

"Two citizens from Springfield arrived last evening, having left Monday morning. McCULLOCH arrived at that place Monday evening, 18th inst., with 3,000 troops. On the 20th he was joined by 2,000 more. On Sunday morning last he left Springfield, marching down the Fayetteville road, and was encamped next day six miles from town.

Two companies only of the State Guard were left in Springfield. When my informant left, all was quiet there. But few armed men were met with until our lines were reached.

Another informant reports that on Saturday fourteen men, movers, were robbed at Lebanon of horses, guns, blankets, and all they had, even to their pocket-knives."

AFFAIRS AT CAIRO.

Correspondence of the St. Louis Democrat.

CAIRO, Wednesday, Nov. 27, 1861.

Everything is quiet in military circles here. A reconnoissance made by a body of our troops, under orders of Gen. GRANT, has discovered the fact that there are at present no rebel troops on the west side of the Mississippi, between Bird's Point and Belmont. The force went down as far as the late battle-field.

The *Graham*, arriving here from St. Louis this evening, passed the two gunboats last night, lying near Hat Island. They will not arrive here, probably, before Friday. The gunboat *Lexington* is lying about twenty-five miles above Cape Girardeau, awaiting their appearance, and will convoy them down here. There is fully six and a half feet of water on the most prominent bars between this point and St. Louis. The stream is falling very slowly.

Gen. GRANT has put a veto upon the passage of any more persons South from this point. A young man named FLANNEY, of St. Louis, one of the Camp Jackson prisoners, was sent down the river as far as Norfolk to-day, and has the honor of bringing up the rear of this celebrated crowd. He reported that he was the last of the lot. At all events, no more representing themselves as such will be allowed to pass our lines.

THE EXPEDITION DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI.

Correspondence of the Chicago Post.

CAIRO, Friday, Nov. 29, 1861.

Gen. HALLECK'S advent in the West seems to have given life and energy to military matters, and it is evident that a forward movement in some direction is not far distant. His orders to the different posts smack of the right spirit, and show true military genius. His orders disallowing furloughs under any circumstances, preventing officers and soldiers from a free access to the different camps, peremptorily prohibiting citizens from passing to Kentucky or Missouri from Illinois, and *vice versa*, unless they have a pass from Gen.

[illegible] into the enemy's hands, the bridge destroyed by Pontoons.

[illegible] a large portion of Missouri loyal to the Government.

ARMY BRIDGES.

Necessity of Bridges—Kinds now in Use—A New Invention.

The subject of army bridges, at the present moment, is of so much importance, that we devote an unusual amount of space to it.

No army can be considered properly equipped [illegible] of some kind wherewith to penetrate [illegible] country.

One of the first duties of a retreating force, in a country intersected by streams and rivers, is the destruction of the bridges which, heretofore, had been used for the civil purposes of the State. No man knew better, nor suffered more the want of these appliances than NAPOLEON. On the 26th of January, 1814, he wrote:

"If I had ten *pontons* I should have already annihilated the army of Prince SCHWARTZENBERG and closed the war; I should have taken from him 8,000 or 10,000 wagons, and his entire army in detail; but for the want of proper means I could not pass the Seine."

Again on the 3d of March he wrote:

"What things could I not have done if I had had bridge equipages. Here I have been stopped for many hours by the difficulty of repairing the bridges of Pont-sous-Jouarre."

In a second dispatch of the same day he repeated:

"If I had a bridge equipage at Inery, the army of SCHWARTZENBERG had been destroyed. If I had one this morning the army of BLUCHER had been lost."

We speak for the experience of a great General.

The present war is one which more than ever calls for the use of army bridges. Not a bridge, from the cumbrous and powerful railway structure to the village home-made across such a gulley as Bull Run, that will be found by our troops destroyed. The following admirable remarks upon the subject of military bridges, from Col. CULLUM's papers upon engineering, embody the whole truth of the matter:

"No well-appointed army should take the field without providing the means for overcoming all obstacles which lie in its path, and, if a fortunate chain of circumstances should prevent anticipated dangers, no just objection can hence be urged against a wise foresight which has labored to avoid the disasters attendant on unforeseen emergencies that might probably have arisen."

THE PONTON BRIDGES NOW USED.

Russia and Austria still adhere, more or less, to the copper cylinder used for years past as the flotation power for bridges. France, until within a few years, confined itself almost exclusively to *bateaux*, (light boats,) and, until the introduction of India-rubber pontoons, the United States army used boats, and, later, canvas, covered with some substance impervious to water. The latest improvement in the system of pontooning is that worked out by Col. CULLUM, composed, as far as superstructure is concerned, much upon the French plan, and is as follows: Three India-rubber cylinders, webbed together, form the *ponton*. These cylinders are twenty feet long by twenty inches in diameter each, and possess a power of flotation sufficient for all ordinary purposes when anchored at distances of eighteen feet from centre to centre, or about fourteen feet from one bearing to another.

Upon these *pontons* the "balks" or string pieces are placed and lashed with rope, reaching over the span above mentioned. Upon the balks are thrown the "chesses" or flooring, and these are also lashed by ropes, making a road-way about fourteen feet wide.

It would be impossible in this short sketch to give an elaborate detail of all the working plans; suffice it to say that, for crossing placid streams when the banks are in any way suitable, it would be difficult to suggest an improvement. The simplicity of construction, and the portability, make it a *sine qua non* to the advancing army.

Each division should be furnished with a *ponton* train, or with some such appliance as the one explained below.

A NEW ARMY BRIDGE.

This construction, which is now on exhibition in the Park Barracks, is not in any way a confliction with the old plan, but merely furnishes facilities which the present plan does not present.

One difficulty connected with a *ponton* train is that it can only be used in certain positions, and upon certain streams. Rough and difficult margins are inconveniences which cannot be gotten over without heavy excavations. Gullies or runs measuring more than eighteen feet across are impassable; chasms, destroyed arches or abutments left standing from burned bridges, are unavailable. It was therefore found necessary to furnish some appliance that should fill the place of a bridge superstructure, or should have combined with lightness sufficient span for most practical purposes. Something was wanted which could quickly and strongly be placed in position to cover all the necessities of the army, from van to rear. The best roads everywhere are those which lead to the bridges. To lay a *ponton* train, it would often be found necessary to diverge from the regular road, and make another, at a large cost of time and labor.

This labor expended, it would be necessary to take up the *ponton* train for future work, and so leave supplies from the rear at the mercy of any contingent facility for crossing that may occur. We believe a constant and unbroken connection should be kept up with the rear of the army. In some cases, of a timbered country, for instance, trestle bridges may be constructed, but it would be worse than madness to depend upon a supply of timber and conveniences for building for our bridge accommodations. In the swamps, bayous, and creeks of South Carolina who expects to find the pines of North Carolina? Even where timber is abundant it would be frequently a work of great labor and of considerable delay to attempt a construction of timber bridges.

The superstructure now in the Park is intended to meet these requirements. It is light, portable, very quickly erected, and enormously strong. The plan is somewhat as follows: The balks or string pieces may be termed parallels, being joined at intervals by iron tubes, making, as it were, so many sections of a ladder. The end pieces are sixteen feet each long—the middle ones ten feet—making a surface of forty-two feet in all. Upon these balks are affixed iron sleeves or straps at proper intervals. Through these straps holes are drilled wherein the bolts are placed, where the tension trusses are adjusted. Under the two joints of each string piece are placed tension posts which compose the bearings, and give to the wire rope passing under them sufficient angle to obtain the required strength. The whole strength of the bridge lies in this set of wire ropes, which may be termed tension trusses. These for the span now exhibited are nineteen feet long, with clevices at each end, and are so arranged that by interlacing each other the pressure or weight is equally distributed over the whole surface, the span from one abutment to the other being thirty feet—or ten feet each from one tension post to the other. The flooring or chesses are the same as those of the *ponton* bridges, and are of course uniform in length and width, viz., thirteen feet nine inches long, one foot wide. The side rails are on the same principle, and the whole is bound together by lashings of Manilla rope, which are tightened by rack sticks.

One great advantage consists in the ease and quickness with which such a bridge can be thrown across a span or chasm. Being exceedingly light, the "parallels" can be handled much as painters manage their ladders, and can be lowered to the required position by a light rope, without the necessity of help upon the opposite side of the span.

To put together, the parallels are laid upon each other on the side of the bank, and are placed upside down. The tension posts are then attached, and lifting each end of the parallel, the wire rope trusses are quickly bolted, and the bridge is then turned over, its own weight so straining upon the tension trusses as to bring the string-pieces to their proper curve, which is very small.

One of the chief, and in fact indispensable arrangements, is the mode of fastening the wire rope ends into the clevice. Unless some improvement had been made upon the present plan, it would have been necessary to make these bridges proportionably strong as permanent fixtures. This could not be allowed in army structures, as they would be entirely too heavy for transportation.

The whole weight of the 42 feet by 13 feet 9 inches, with all appliances, is 3,740 pounds; the weight of the present ponton bridge for 19 feet of surface is 2,378 pounds.

For certain districts of the country we would recommend that the wire-rope trusses and other metal appliances be supplied to the Government, and let the engineers cut their timber and dress it roughly at the nearest best opportunity. We should think the metal parts of each span could be packed easily in small boxes, and bridges of various spans made at a smaller cost than the heavy transportation of complete wood work. The inventor of this ingenious work is Mr. J. JONES, of this City, who has constructed this and others for Gen. BURNSIDE's Division.

We are requested to state that Mr. JONES will be happy to give more full particulars at his office, No 81 Pine-street.

ARMY SUTLERS.

Senator Wilson's Bill to Abolish Army Sutlers—Abuses, Extortions and Profits of Sutlers—Reforms Needed—Regulations and Articles of War on Sutlers—Soldiers Cannot Do without Sutlers—Could Not Get Tobacco—A Tobacco Famine in Florida, &c., &c., &c.

It is reported that Senator WILSON has determined to introduce a bill, immediately on the opening of Congress, to abolish altogether the office of sutler in the army, on account of extortions practiced upon the soldiers, and other irregularities.

No one at all acquainted with army matters can deny that, even when our army was a mere handfull of men compared with its present gigantic proportions, very gross abuses were tolerated in the sutling department, and it is, therefore, very easy to imagine that these abuses have "grown with the growth and strengthened with the strength" of the United States forces, until, at length, it is imperatively necessary that very strong measures should be taken to check the evil. As the office of sutler has always been a most lucrative one, it need scarcely be said that it is a very desirable position now, so far as the profits are concerned; and it is no wonder that some Colonels, with whom the "greed of gain" is, to say the least of it, equally potent with their devotion to the Union and their consideration for the welfare and comfort of the men under their command, should have permitted themselves to make agreements with sutlers for a share of the spoils, as they are alleged to have done.

It has long been a subject of complaint among soldiers of the regular army, that the prices they have been obliged to pay for such articles as, considering their circumstances, they could obtain only from the sutlers, have been very exorbitant, but it would be a serious inconvenience to them if sutlers were banished altogether from the military posts and encampments. In fact, sutlers are almost indispensable appendages to a military post. The soldier is dependent upon them for numerous articles which he absolutely requires, in order to keep himself and his arms and accoutrements in a presentable state. Before he has been in the army two days, the soldier, unless he have money, must open an account with the sutler, and under any circumstances he must become a customer at the sutler's store.

Take, for example, a recruit enlisted in this City, and sent to the general dépôt on Governor's Island. The chances are a hundred to one that he has not a single cent to his name, and at least fifty to one that he will not realize, by the sale of his citizens' clothes to the Jews who frequent the Island, a sufficient sum to purchase blacking, shoe-brush, clothes-brush, button-brush, chalk for polishing buttons and brasses, comb, razor and strop, (if he shave, which he is not compelled to do,) towels, white gloves for dress parade, oil for his musket, (and also for his hair, if he have any weakness that way,) pocket handkerchiefs, soap for shaving and washing, (the soap allowed by Uncle Sam being given to the laundresses, in consideration of the small charge they make for washing,) and several other minor articles, all of which he must provide for himself. Even if he had the money he could not get these articles, unless there was either a sutler or his equivalent. At distant stations, and on campaigns, the difficulty of procuring the commodities above mentioned would be considerably increased, supposing the office of sutler were abolished.

As to the prices charged by sutlers, and which allow a margin for profit of from 100 to 300 per cent., there can only be one opinion, and that is that they are unreasonable beyond all measure, making due allowance for the credit which is given to a soldier, and very little allowance will do for this, because the sutler is allowed to sit at the pay table and collect his debts before the payee leaves the room. Should a soldier desert, the sutler, after the Government and the laundress, has the first claim upon any pay or allowances that may be due, therefore he does not run much risk in giving credit. As a rule, the sutler should be able to sell as cheaply as any one, because he is seldom under any rent, and the only tax he pays is ten cents per month for each man in the command. This tax goes to the Post Fund at fixed military posts. What becomes of it in Virginia, or whether there is any tax there at all, the writer knows not.

The regulations of the service on the subject of sutling are, in substance, as follows:

Every military post may have one sutler, to be appointed by the Secretary of War. The sutler shall hold his office for three years unless sooner removed but the commanding officer has power to suspend a sutler's privilege, should there be cause to do so. Troops in campaign, on detachment, or on distant service, are allowed sutlers at the rate of one for every regiment, corps or separate detachment, to be appointed by the commanding officer upon the recommendation of a Council of Administration consisting of the commanding officer and the three officers next in rank to himself, subject to the approval of the General or other officer in command. It is the duty of the Council of Administration to prescribe the quantity and kind of clothing, small equipments, and soldiers' necessaries, groceries, and all articles which the sutlers may be required to keep on hand; to examine the sutler's books and papers, to inspect his weights and measures, and to fix the tariff of prices of the goods and commodities—such tariff to be exposed in a conspicuous place in the sutler's store. No sutler is allowed to sell to an enlisted man on credit to a sum exceeding one-third of his monthly pay, within the same month, without the written sanction of the commanding officer, and not exceeding one-half his monthly pay with such permission.

In addition to these regulations the following articles of war relate to the subject:

ART. 30. All officers commanding in the field, forts, barracks or garrisons of the United States, are hereby required to see that the persons permitted to sutle shall supply the soldiers with good and wholesome provisions, or other articles, *at a reasonable price*, as they shall be answerable for their neglect.

ART. 31. No officer commanding in any of the garrisons, forts or barracks of the United States, shall exact exorbitant prices for houses or stalls, let out to sutlers, or connive at the like exaction in others; nor by his own authority, and for his private advantage, lay any duty or imposition upon, or be interested in, the sale of any victuals, liquors, or other necessaries of life brought into the garrisons, forts or barracks, for the use of soldiers, on the penalty of being discharged from the service.

It will be seen, from the foregoing regulations and articles of war, that any imposition upon the soldiers, either in the price or quality of any article sold to them by the sutler, must result from the negligence or collusion of the officers. Surely military law is strong enough to reach offending officers, and to reform the abuses which undoubtedly exist in the sutling department, without calling for an act of Congress to abolish sutling altogether! As a soldier, the writer can well picture to himself the consternation which would seize his brethren-in-arms should sutlers be banished. Gloves, blacking, brushes, chalk, towels—these are articles which old soldiers would not care about if they never saw them again, *but where would the tobacco come from?* In Florida, once, a few years ago, there was a tobacco famine, caused by the delay, *in transitu*, of the sutler's stores. If a scout had come into camp and reported that all the Red Indians in the Territores were in their war paint, and had surrounded us, the intelligence would not have caused half so much dismay as did the report that the sutler had no more tobacco, and did not know when he should have a fresh supply. The famine lasted four weeks, during which time the price of "plug" tobacco, the only kind out there, rose to $5 an inch, and, in some cases inveterate chewers gave a $10 gold piece for a bit of tobacco the size of the coin. This may appear fabulous, but it is positively true, as many old soldiers of the —— artillery can vouch.

Even the officers were reduced to the dire necessity of hunting up, in all kinds of places round the camp, the discarded ends of their cigars. At last the stores arrived, in the middle of the night, and the sutler was obliged to get get up and issue tobacco, by order of the commanding officer, who had suffered as much as any one, and who was not by any means the last in for his share.

What is required in the matter of sutling is, not a bill to abolish it altogether, but a *proper carrying out of the regulations already in existence*. If commanding officers, whether of divisions, brigades or regiments, would see that these regulations were honestly acted up to, there would be no ground of complaint, and if Senator WILSON will use his great influence to reform the abuses which have crept into army sutling, and make it what it was intended to be, a convenience to the troops, he will entitle himself to the gratitude of every soldier in the army of the United States.

APPAREL IN BOSTON.

Departure of Capt. Wilkes and Gen. Lane—Capt. Wilkes' Views on the "Main Question" and the Amendments—Discussion of the Big Charter of the Big Steamer Constitution—The Old Pierce Politicians Have Their Hand In—The Routes of Travel Between New-York and Boston, &c.

BOSTON, Monday, Dec. 2, 1861.

Capt. WILKES and Gen. LANE are gone, and we are without a sensation. In New-York you have a fresh one of some kind, every morning, as our Mr. RALPH WALDO EMERSON has remarked. He said of your great City, that with its breakfast, daily, it must have its sensation—and your newspapers give it. It costs New-York $3,000 each morning—at two cents per copy—and is cheap at that. Here we are satisfied with one once a week—for we warm it over for the next day, have a "picked-up dinner" on the third, and the fourth day eat the remains of the dessert, and for the remaining three days of the week, go without.

A day or two since, at the Revere House, Lieut. FAIRFAX was observed talking with a friend, in his quiet, modest way. Next them were engaged in conversation two other gentlemen, one of them the Secretary of the British Legation. The topic of talk was the same in each case, but it may be imagined that there were different points of view.

Capt. WILKES, who, as I intimated in a former letter, very thoroughly examined the law of the case before boarding the *Trent*, is confident that we are right, even on the technical points. That his act agreed with the *spirit of* international law, none have disputed. It is anticipated that the point which England will make against the seizure, if she seeks to make a point at all, is that the *Trent* was running from one neutral port, (Spanish,) to another neutral port, (British,) that she was a passenger packet, taking indifferently, all who offered and could pay their passage money. The answer to the latter suggestion is, that she takes passengers at her own risk; that she may refuse to give passage to dangerous persons, as a common carrier of freight, though generally bound to take everything which offers, and liable in damages for refusal, may yet, without detriment, refuse to take dangerous articles, such as combustibles, or goods liable to seizure as contraband of war. A case was suggested, as follows: Suppose the two "Ambassadors" had safely landed in England, and that the one commissioned for France should set sail at Dover (an English port,) for Calais, (a French port,) would the vessel which carried him be liable to seizure in the British Channel? Capt. WILKES is positive that she would be so liable—that the emissary might be seized anywhere on the high seas, and that no traversing of ocean or of continent can purge him of the taint of his hostile and contraband character, or give him immunity from seizure. The only point to be avoided in the seizure is the violation of a friendly territory. But wherever he can be taken one marine league from shore, he is well taken.

I remarked that if our sensations here in Boston are rarer than you make them in New-York, we get our compensation by enjoying them longer. The Boston people have not got over talking about the new steamer *Constitution*, which came here chartered for Gen. BUTLER's expedition at the rate of $3,000 per day. This figure *does* look large. It amounts to *one million and ninety-five thousand dollars* per year. It will be difficult to show that her running expenses can be made to exceed $1,000 per day, leaving her net earnings for one year at this rate, $730,000—equal to the first cost of two such steamers. But it is urged on the other hand, that the charter was positive for only a short period, thirty days, giving the Government option to discharge her at the end of that period. To this, it is replied that the shrewd parties who effected the charter very well understood that the Government would have need of transport for a much longer period, and that, though thirty days was the term expressed, it was understood that she would be employed for a hundred days, or even longer. The profits of a hundred days of such employment, it is suggested, would be a sum sufficient to pay the first cost of the steamer, and leave a handsome margin over, while at the end of that period the steamer herself, her new machinery settled into working order, would be better fit for the route she was built for than when the boat was perfectly new.

You may be sure that the Boston people continue to discuss this "big thing," and that in connection with that and other steamboat chartering, present and prospective, they tell of a big combination of the old Pierce and Buchanan politicians, some of them capitalists, who are now running the steamboat-chartering machine.

We have two routes of travel, by rail all the way, from this to New-York. You have but one from New-York to Boston. The explanation of this paradox is, that one goes hence by way of Providence, and the other by way of Worcester. They unite at New-Haven, the passengers of each going into New-York by the same train. There is a sharp rivalry between them, aggravated by the fact that the carrying of the night mail has recently been transferred from the Worcester line to the Providence line. Each of them, in circulars and placards, vaunt their respective merits, and neither fails, in their several statements to the public, to make sly hints at the lines, their common rivals, which have steamboat connection. But these, the steamboat lines, are still the acceptable routes to the great mass of travel, and the more so, latterly, since those two magnificent steamers—the *City of New-York* and the *City of Boston*—have been put upon the Norwich route, always a favorite.

The Sanitary Commission—What it has and what it has not Done.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Nov. 26, 1861.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Salutary advice given in a journal having such wide influence as the TIMES, cannot fail to do good, and, therefore, your fine article of to-day suggesting to the Sanitary Commission that they turn their attention to the sick soldiers in the camps, before assuming to teach an experienced medical officer his duty, has given great satisfaction here, and has led to the hope that the Commission may yet do some little good, to make up for the vast amount of trouble they have incurred, and the large sums of money—taken principally from the pockets of New-Yorkers—which is necessary to defray their monthly expenses here.

The people of your City are laboring under the delusion that the Sanitary Commission and Miss DIX have the charge of the hospitals here, and take a very active part in their internal management. Simple truth and justice to the medical officers of the Government, make it necessary that facts should jappear, which however unpalatable, will rob both those parties of a great deal of their newspaper glory. The Commission and Miss DIX are simply *occasional* visitors to the hospitals—weeks, and even *months* intervening between their calls to some of them—calls which are seldom of longer duration than an hour or two. Miss DIX does not live in the hospitals, but in her comfortable house in Washington, and has never nursed a sick soldier, nor folded a shroud over a dead one, since the war begun. The greater part of her time is spent in writing to Governors of States and having her "*commission*" copied and sent to them and to "Associations," and instead of immediately distributing the supplies sent her for the sick, she has even now a large quantity of things sent to her as long ago as June, which are piled up in an old barn in this city—jellies spoiling and leaking, and shirts and linen never unfolded,—unused, while many need them. So much for Miss DIX.

As to the Commission, it is well known that it enrolls among its members some of the best men in the country, who have no more to do with its operations than the Sultan of Turkey, beyond getting a copy of its "reports." The thing is managed by a few ambitious personages, who, unfortunately for themselves, and perhaps for the soldiers, began their work wrong. I read the article, which was written at their dictation, in the *World*, and was surprised at the malice and presumption and narrow judgment of affairs here it exhibited. It calls for the erection of "model hospitals" in Washington, and is furious at the Surgeon-General for not having them as the Sanitary Commission suggested. But, suppose the army were to move forward, (as it must soon)—suppose it at Richmond, what would be the use of the model hospitals? With Maryland well protected, the Government will not keep a large body of troops around Washington. Our army must be constantly moving when the war begins in earnest; and it is only the poorest kind of brains that could draw up a plan for the building of model hospitals in Washington, while commodious and comfortable buildings, such as the department have already in use, answer every purpose and are the admiration of visitors to them for their comfort and cleanliness. Sometimes it is dangerous—and as much as a sick or wounded man's *life* is worth to remove him a couple of miles. Hospitals—the best that can be found—must be made ready on the spot where they are needed. What would the sick soldiers do for care while the model hospitals were being built? Let the one clergyman and the two or three citizen physicians who *manage* the affairs of the Sanitary Commission, give the matter a little profound thought, and they will be surprised to discover what great mistakes they are making. They made the mistake in the beginning, of dictating its duties to the MEDICAL BUREAU of the Army, which brought upon them its coldness and "reserve;" for it is not strange that a distinguished medical officer who has been in more battles than one, should object to follow the lead of two or three individuals who have never been out of private life—know nothing of the management, and probably never saw a military hospital until now. As a proof of the ignorance of the Commission in this regard, I will state, that I once told one of the physicians belonging to it, that every military hospital was conducted on a system which produced a fund whereby it supplied itself with delicacies, and even luxuries for the sick. He was greatly surprised. This was in September. The Commission had been here three months, and yet did not know that there was such a thing as a military hospital fund—one of the simplest and well-known things about them.

The Commission complains that the Surgeon-General does not appoint a "Board" to inquire into the merits and qualifications of volunteer Surgeons. Now the Commission has been here long enough to learn that in the army everything is done by rule and system. The Surgeon-General acquitted himself of his full duty when he recommended the Governors of the several States to examine into the qualifications of candidates for medical positions. He has no power to appoint a Board of Inquiry for volunteers. If a Colonel of a regiment or a General of a brigade made a complaint to him of the Surgeon or Surgeons under hem, he could then order a Board of Inquiry, and certainly would; but without this he could take no action in the matter. The Surgeon-General does his duty. A Medical Board of the highest officers in the service sits every day, in Washington, examining rigidly into the claims of every candidate for admission into the regular army. When regiments of volunteers come here their Surgeons are already admitted, sworn and enlisted for the war. Their examination should take place before they reach that point, according to the wise direction of the head of the Medical Bureau. The Sanitary Commission ought to dispel the ignorance they are laboring under in relation to these little matters before they proceed to remove men from office. If, as you sensibly suggest, they were to turn their attention to the sick in the camps, they might do some little good while the army remains here; but theirs is, as I said before, a very expensive institution, considering the work they do. They distribute some Bibles in the camps—which the chaplains of the regiments might very well attend to—and they send white cotton shirts, sheets and pillow-cases to the different regiments. Now, the distribution of the last items will serve to prove their wise system of working in war matters. They refuse to give sheets and pillow-cases any longer to the hospitals. I know not that they ever sent any to them, but they distribute them in camps, where there are no means of washing them, where they serve little purpose—for there are no beds to put them on—and where they must be left behind when the troops move. They have a very slipshod way of doing their little bit of work of distributing jellies, &c., though the secretaries, operatives, agents, and all that are engaged, get rather good salaries for the times, and all out of the pockets of the "generous public." Has any one ever thought of appointing a "Board of Inquiry" as to whether the labors of the Commission really pay for supporting it?

There is a regular Medical Purveyor here at Washington—a Government officer, whose business it is to attend solely to the distribution of supplies to the sick troops. The office has a great many employes, and is systematically conducted. The supplies could be sent for the sick soldier to this point quite as well as to any other, and would be handled with some judgment. It is very true, as you say, that "volunteer organizations can make themselves very useful by seconding and aiding the efforts of the Government;" but they must have better management than the Sanitary Commission, and their projectors must be men who can wisely judge what the sudden emergencies of war demand, and act accordingly. One thing the public ought to know. The Government hosoitals are well managed, and get no help from the Sanitary Board. Government provides every needful comfort for the sick, and it is the fault of the head Surgeon in any Government hospital if he lacks such.

TRUTH.

A Few Words of Warning.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Your paper is one of the few which allows different sides to be presented in the questions agitated among us. It seems to be assumed in the recent case of the seizure of the rebel emissaries that there is but one side to the matter, and we are coming to feel quite tranquil as to the position of England on the question. But as you have justly remarked, it is in many respects "an entirely new case" without exact precedents. How far dispatch-bearers (if it shall appear that the rebel emissaries had dispatches) can also be considered as "contraband of war" and liable to seizure, or as so distinctly hostile in their purposes as to give a reasonable ground under international law for their arrest, will be the question, probably. I do not propose to discuss it here, though I must be allowed to say that, even as an American, I have not been convinced by the cases thus far quoted.

But what I desire to say most earnestly is, that the action of the Government ought not to be predetermined by the often superficial discussions of private individuals, who cannot have had sufficient time for a proper study of the subject, or by dinner speeches, or the popular admiration for a bold action.

Depend upon it, Sir, that if Lord PALMERSTON can hang the semblance of a good case upon this affair, he will go to the utmost extreme, this side of war; and it would not be strange if the Derby Ministry went into power on the question of war with the Northern States, if the present Cabinet shall not press the question far enough. Remember that England has vastly less to *restrain* her from a war with us than ever before, while she has far greater inducements. There will be a perfect howl of indignation over this when the news reaches England.

Now, of course, the only question for us is, *was our course legal?* But before the case is adjudged, let us not raise such a cry as to prevent our Government from making a manly confession that they were in the wrong, if they were so.

It sometimes seems to disinterested observers, that Providence is preparing a most tremendous thrashing for this country, just to beat out our arrogance and vanity. Look at those speeches at the Boston dinner. People talk of a "War with England" as though it were a kind of dessert after the substantial banquet we are giving our rebel brethren—a mere bagatelle amusement.

War with England is the *utter and irremediable ruin of our cause.* It is the absolute and permanent Independence of the Southern Confederacy. There can be no doubt of that. It is the destruction of our commerce, and perhaps the bombardment of New-York and Boston, and other ports. It would be perect insanity to put the English navy and purse into JEFF. DAVIS' hands at the present time.

AN AMERICAN.

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

TUESDAY, Dec. 3—P. M.

The earliest dealings of the day on the Stock Exchange, were at a further decline in prices on the Railway Shares, from yesterday's last figures, while the National Stocks remain firm, and most of the State Stocks—Missouris being the principal exception—are steady. Sales of Missouris were pressed at 40@39¼ ℔ cent. at the first Board, closing 39¾@40 ℔ cent. New-York Central, as the barometer of the Share list, opened at 77¼ ℔ cent., sold down to 77, and then soon recovered to 77¼@½. On the Street, after the firm but conservative temper of the President's Message was announced, the price went up to 77¾ ℔ cent, and sales at 77¼@¾, followed at the Second Board. The course of the market for Erie and the Western Shares was much the same as Central, depressed on the early sales and then recovering from ½ to ¾ ℔ cent at the Second Board. The general market late in the afternoon left off steady, though with no decided buoyancy, the latest quotations varying ¼@¾ ℔ cent. on the Railways over Monday afternoon, and ¼@1 ℔ cent. over the lowest sales this morning, viz:

New-York Central..	77¼	Mich. Southern.....	17¼
Erie.....	31	Missouris.....	39¾
Erie Preferred.....	53	Illinois Central.....	60¼
Rock Island.....	52¼	Galena.....	70
Toledo.....	32½	Hudson.....	37¾
Mich. Central.....	48¾	United States 6s, '81..	93¼

The following are the bids to-day for the City Bank Shares:

Mechanics'.....	91	Nassau.....	80
America.....	97	St. Nicholas.....	72½
Phœnix.....	90	Marine.....	80
National.....	87	N. Y. County.....	81
American Exchange..	80	Importers' & Traders'.	88
Hanover.....	68	Park.....	96

And the following for the Railway Mortgages:

N. Y. Cen. sixes.....	91	Mich. So. 7 ℔c. Assent. B.	87
N. Y. Cen. sevens, '94..	100¾	N. Ind. firsts.....	80
Y. Y. Cen. sevens, '76..	101	M. S. & N. Ind. s. f., 7 ℔ c.	75
Erie firsts, '68.....	100	Ill. Cen. 7 ℔ c., '75.....	87½
Erie seconds extend. '64.	101¾	T. H. & A. firsts, 7 ℔ c.	70
Erie seconds extend., '79	99	La C. & Mil. L. G. Bds..	10
Erie thirds, '83.....	85½	Chi. & N. W. s. f.....	81
Erie fourths, 80.....	71	Chi. & N. W. firsts, 2d s.	38
Erie fifths, '88.....	66	Chi. & N. W. seconds...	10
B., N. Y. & Erie firsts, '69	66	Han. & St. Jo. firsts..	30
Hudson firsts, '69.....	103¼	N. J. Central seconds..	100
Hudson thirds, '75.....	75	Gal. & Chi. firsts.....	99
Hudson convertibles, '67	68	Gal. & Chi. seconds....	94
Harlem firsts, '60-'73..	96¼	Del., L. & W. firsts....	92
Mich. Cen. 8 ℔ c. '69-'72	90	Del., L. & W. firsts....	92
Mich. C. n. f., 8 ℔ c., '82.	91¼	Lack. & West. Bonds..	90
Chi., B. & Q. 8 ℔ c.....	92¾	Clev. & Tol. firsts, s. f.	77¼

The market for Exchange for the steamer *Asia* to-morrow morning closes unusually quiet. The mail is probably a light one, as we hear to-day of no considerable transactions in Bankers' bills. The rate on London is 108¾@109 ℔ cent., the same as on Saturday, while on Paris the figures are rather easier, say f5.20@f5.17½ to the dollar. There is a fair offering of Merchant bills on British points this week, the Export clearances of Domestic Produce being again heavy, although for only five business days, instead of six, and with some bad shipping weather intervening. The following is a comparative statement of the exports (exclusive of Specie,) from New-York to Foreign Ports, for the week ending Dec. 3, and since Jan. 1:

	1859.	1860.	1861.
For the week.....	$1,245,041	$1,971,080	$2,849,445
Previously reported..	60,667,682	90,566,036	121,667,828
Since January 1.....	$61,912,723	$92,537,716	$124,517,273

The market for money remains easy, although drawn upon by the Government, to-day, to the amount of $3,500,000. Against this and other recent drafts the current disbursements of the Treasury are so heavy that the money remains only a few days out of Bank. To-day the Banks paid in $900,000 in the Treasury bills of 1863, in place of gold. As 80 ℔ cent. on the second negotiation of Oct. 1 has now been paid in, only $7,000,000 remains to be drawn for as against the $70,000,000 of 7.30 ℔ cent. Treasury Bonds assigned to New-York. The succeeding drafts after this seven millions will therefore be made as against the recent purchase by the Associated Banks of $35,000,000 United States 6 ℔ cent. Stock of 1881, at the equivalent 90.51 ℔ cent. of a 7 ℔ cent. Stock at par. It is stated that the private subscriptions to the loans at the Assistant Treasurer's Office, Philadelphia, including deposits made by agents, up to the 1st of December, were $5,655,188 73. The reimbursements made to the banks, on account of the sum advanced by them, amounted to $3,158,085.

The Sub-Treasury receipts, to-day, were $4,333,930, including $3,643,703 for Treasury Notes, and $42,000 for Customs; payments, $1,845,544 including redeemed 6 ℔ cent. notes; balance, this afternoon, $7,483,522.

WEEKLY AVERAGES OF THE PHILADELPHIA BANKS.

BANKS.	LOANS. Dec. 2.	LOANS. Nov. 25.	SPECIE. Dec. 2.	SPECIE. Nov. 25.
Philadelphia	$4,160,000	$4,203,000	$1,191,000	1,245,000
North America	3,457,584	3,516,114	934,402	870,570
Farmers & Mech.	5,169,753	4,963,531	1,548,084	1,414,294
Commercial	2,042,000	1,921,000	384,000	409,000
Mechanics'	2,047,300	1,900,000	285,225	272,600
N. Liberties	1,552,000	1,557,000	329,000	350,000
Southwark	1,036,845	957,056	348,930	344,985
Kensington	795,650	799,388	206,700	198,228
Penn Township	848,692	782,695	192,242	209,197
Western	1,634,915	1,606,100	550,541	636,544
Man. & Mech	998,520	1,369,925	164,605	186,775
Commerce	817,377	784,320	214,226	210,447
Girard	2,544,623	2,469,402	347,445	383,428
Tradesmen's	626,901	606,234	159,088	154,277
Consolidation	636,931	612,966	99,510	106,803
City	978,791	908,822	127,997	179,804
Commonwealth	580,232	585,398	100,555	96,746
Corn Exchange	548,000	543,000	142,000	153,000
Union	486,000	483,000	79,000	62,000
Total	30,048,052	30,498,431	$7,404,530	$7,487,108

BANKS.	DEPOSITS. Dec. 2.	DEPOSITS. Nov. 25.	CIRCULATION. Dec. 2.	CIRCULATION. Nov. 25.
Philadelphia	$2,932,000	$2,906,000	$246,000	$251,000
North America	2,570,369	2,572,686	242,045	221,117
Farmers & Mech	4,990,222	4,322,728	300,830	309,130
Commercial	1,440,000	1,722,000	144,000	151,000
Mechanics'	1,222,360	1,106,143	123,800	121,340
N. Liberties	1,322,000	1,296,000	75,000	78,000
Southwark	811,960	804,441	70,235	67,190
Kensington	686,920	690,951	145,775	127,870
Penn Township	652,083	550,571	69,160	68,766
Western	1,187,005	1,140,090	123,215	127,325
Man. & Mech	875,250	898,640	75,530	79,265
Commerce	735,308	675,956	45,615	49,415
Girard	1,493,087	1,388,314	135,280	145,635
Tradesmen's	510,560	480,170	64,093	63,273
Consolidation	304,579	360,388	122,030	155,620
City	643,798	585,124	56,245	81,313
Commonwealth	387,315	393,749	61,975	63,735
Corn Exchange	378,000	414,000	96,000	96,000
Union	310,000	292,000	51,000	56,000
Total	23,047,331	22,260,001	$2,243,828	$2,234,594

The aggregates compare with those of preceding weeks as follows:

	Dec. 2.	Nov. 25.		
Capital Stock	$11,970,150	$11,969,875	Inc.	275
Loans	30,048,052	30,498,431	Dec.	450,379
Specie	7,404,530	7,487,108	Dec.	82,578
Due from other B'ks.	1,697,944	1,233,931	Inc.	464,013
Due to other Banks..	3,624,251	3,533,337	Inc.	90,914
Deposits	23,047,331	22,260,001	Inc.	787,330
Circulation	2,243,828	2,234,594	Inc.	8,234

The quantity of Flour, Wheat, Corn and Barley, left at tide-water, during the fourth week in November, in the years 1860 and 1861, is as follows:

	Flour, bbls.	Wheat, bush.	Corn, bush.	Barley, bush.
1860.....	25,910	923,213	245,223	116,445
1861.....	66,970	1,888,146	760,791	133,108
Increase.	41,060	Inc. 962,933	Inc. 521,573	Inc. 16,663

The aggregate quantity of the same articles left at tide-water from the commencement of navigation till the 30th of November, inclusive, during the years 1860 and 1861, is as follows:

	Flour, bbls.	Wheat, bush.	Corn, bush.	Barley, bush.
1860.....	1,133,998	17,002,883	14,079,679	2,900,958
1861.....	1,414,834	28,749,060	22,157,221	2,036,115
Inc....	280,836	In. 11,746,177	In. 8,077,542	D. 864,843

By reducing the wheat to flour, the quantity of the latter left at tide-water this year, compared with the corresponding period of last year, shows an increase of 2,630,071 bbls. flour. The following comparative table shows the quantity of some of the principle articles of

The New-York Times.

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VOLUNTARY CORRESPONDENCE, containing important news, solicited from any quarter of the world; if used, will be liberally paid for.

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WINTER GARDEN—PERLIN O'DONNELL—SECESH—LATEST FROM NEW-YORK.

WALLACK'S THEATRE—THE MAGIC MARRIAGE—THE SCAPEGOAT.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE—THE SEVEN SONS.

BOWERY THEATRE—GREAT NATIONAL CIRCUS.

HOPE CHAPEL—CAPT. WILLIAMS' SOUTH SEA WHALING VOYAGE.

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WILLIAMSBURGH—THE ALLEGHANIANS AND SWISS BELL RINGERS.

ARTISTS' FUND SOCIETY—No. 15 Tenth-st.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE REBELLION.

The Senate, yesterday, transacted no business of importance. It was principally occupied in listening to the reading of the President's Message. Mr. GRIMES, of Iowa, introduced a resolution thanking Capt. DUPONT and the officers, seamen and marines under his command, for their achievement at Port Royal, which was laid aside for the present. Bills were also introduced with reference to the protection of guano deposits, and providing for filling the vacancies in the Board of Regents in the Smithsonian Institution. In the House, Mr. MAYNARD presented the credentials of Mr. CLEMENS, Representative elect from the Fourth District of Tennessee, which were referred to the Committee on Elections. After which the President's Message was read. Mr. DUNN offered resolutions providing for the expulsion of HENRY C. BURNETT, of Kentucky, who is in open rebellion against the Government. On these resolutions Mr. WICKLIFFE, of Kentucky, made a very effective speech, in which he predicted that by the 25th of this month no rebel foot would be found on the soil of his State. The resolutions were then adopted. A resolution was also passed giving more time for taking evidence on the contested case in the Third District of Pennsylvania. After which the House adjourned to discuss, at its leisure, the President's Message.

We are permitted to know a little more about the fight at Fort Pickens, through Southern papers received by way of Fortress Monroe, from which it appears that the rebels are gradually schooling themselves to the necessity of acknowledging the truth about it. The latest advices from Pensacola represent that the fight had not been renewed, notwithstanding the avowed determination of BRAGG to do so. Fort McRae is represented to have been nearly demolished by the fire of Fort Pickens—at least the rebels acknowledge that, had the fight continued, the fort would have been destroyed.

The correspondent of the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, writing from Fortress Monroe under date of Dec. 1, furnishes that paper with a batch of improbable rumors from the South. A dispatch published in the Richmond *Examiner* of Thursday represents that Fort Pickens had been breached in front and assaulted in the rear by the rebels, who are said to have captured Col. BROWN and his command. Savannah was in consternation in consequence of rumors that Commodore TATNALL'S fleet had been disabled, and that the lack of experienced artillerists at Fort Pulaski was about to result in the early surrender of that post. The wealthy families of Savannah were flying to Macon and Atlanta for refuge. It was stated that the President of the Bank of Virginia had called upon some of the Union prisoners in Richmond to whom gold had been sent by the Government, and asked loans, pledging 20 per cent. premium on the 1st of January. Gen. HUGER had issued an order requesting passengers under the flag of truce not to take newspapers with them, so that one source of entertainment which we have hitherto enjoyed may be curtailed.

Papers received from rebeldom by way of Fortress Monroe state that a "conspiracy" of Union men has been discovered in New-Orleans, and that a number of arrests have been made. This news corroborates the statements contained in a letter published by us several days ago, from our correspondent on board the steamship *Cuyler*, stationed at the mouth of the Mississippi River.

The Unnited States steamship *James Adger*, which lately visited Southampton, England, and is said to have been followed from that port by a British steamer, arrived at Baltimore yesterday, having touched at the Azores on her way. One of her officers proceeded immediately to Washington with dispatches.

The concentration of troops at Louisville is proceeding very rapidily. On Thanksgiving day the Forty-first Ohio, Col. HAGEN, and the Twenty-fourth, Col. AMMEN, arrived from Cheat Mountain. On Friday, the Sixth (Guthrie Grey) Regiment, Col. BOSLEY, also arrived, together with the Second German Kentucky, from Camp Webster, back of Newport, and a large number of regulars from Newport Barracks. The following regiments are also on their way from Cheat Mountain: The Eighth Ohio, Col. DU PUY; the Ninth, (German,) Col. McCOOK; the Tenth, (Irish,) Col. LYTLE; the Fifteenth Indiana, Col. WAGNER, and the Seventeenth Indiana, Col. HASKELL. The Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, Col. WILLIAMS, was expected to arrive at Louisville on Sunday.

The *Bermudian* of Nov. 6, in alluding to the *Nashville*, which stopped at St. Georges, where she was supplied with coal by J. F. BOURN, says that a ship laden with cotton and bound to England ran the blockade at Charleston the same night on which the rebel steamer made her escape. The same paper makes the significant statement that H. M. S. *Immortalité*, which was lying in Port Royal at last accounts, had orders to visit the several ports of the Southern States, under blockade, to test its efficiency. The French war steamer *Milan* left the Bermudas on Nov. 2, for St. Thomas, Havana and the southern coast of the United States.

GENERAL NEWS.

The memorable Mayoralty election of 1861 has gloriously terminated in the success of GEORGE OPDYKE, the Republican and Union candidate. The struggle was waged with spirit by the friends of all the three leading candidates, and until late in the day seemed of doubtful result, the Gunther Party revealing unexpected strength, owing to heavy defections from the standard of FERNANDO WOOD and the aid of a considerable German vote. Mr. OPDYKE, sustained by the Republicans, the TAX-payers, the German Union League and a noteworthy conservative phalanx of National Democrats, received 25,258; C. GODFREY GUNTHER, 24,639, and FERNANDO WOOD, 24,084 votes, the result giving Mr. OPDYKE a plurality of 1,173 over WOOD, and 619 over GUNTHER—the latter candidate outstripping WOOD by 555 votes. As the figures show, the total vote was much heavier than in November, and the most intense interest waited on the issue. Few disturbances occurred, and they were of no serious magnitude. The City, the State and the country have reason to rejoice over a result that strengthens the cause of the Union.

A letter from Western Virginia says: "I am sorry to inform you that Maj. SLEMMER, of Fort Pickens fame, is not expected to live. He came here to inspect the troops, but was attacked with camp fever and dysentery—which nearly all of us have had—and is now lying in a precarious condition. His wife is here with him."

There have been 4,440 tons of provisions and ammunition shipped from Pier No. 9 North River during the month of November for Washington, D. C. Besides this shipment, there were several schooners chartered by the Government for the same destination.

The steamship *Hartford*, Flag-officer ENGLE, of the East India Squadron, arrived at Philadelphia on Monday. She left Boston in 1859, and as her cruise is up, the crew is to be paid off and discharged.

The French steam-gunboat *Gassendi*, Commander GAUTIER, from Halifax, four days, arrived yesterday afternoon. She mounts 6 guns, and has a crew of 127 men.

The Stock Market opened weak yesterday forenoon, but later in the day, when the firm and conservative temper of the President's Message was made known, prices recovered ¼@1 ₩ cent., and closed steady. Exchange 108¾@109 ₩ cent.

Flour, Wheat and Corn were in good request, yesterday, at somewhat firmer prices. Cotton was freely purchased at higher rates. Groceries were less active, as also were Naval Stores, Hay, Hops and Whisky. Pork and Beef were quiet, while Bacon, Lard and Tobacco were in lively demand. Metals, Oils, Fish, Fruit, Hemp and Whalebone were generally inactive. The freight engagements were moderate—rates, in some instances, lower.

The Live Stock Markets are still crowded with animals, hogs being in the greatest excess. About 3,300 beeves were at the Forty-fourth-street yards yesterday, which is less in numbers than last week, but the cattle are much heavier. The City election kept many butchers away from the yards, and business was dull, though sales were generally at an advance of ½c. over the quotations of last week. Several lots of fine cattle were sold at 8c.@8½c. ₩ lb., but the poorer grades went off slowly at 6½c.@7½c., and enough were left over for to-day's general weekly market.

The President's Message.

President LINCOLN'S Message is precisely such a document as any one familiar with his character would have anticipated. It is clear, unpretending, frank and perfectly loyal to the declarations and acts of his whole political life. It sets forth the actual condition of the country without the slightest attempt at vain-glorious boasting, or the least effort to belittle and underrate its dangers. While the President shows a just and firm reliance on the resources of the country and the patriotism of the people, he rushes into none of those extreme and perilous measures which captivate the imagination and respond to the passionate indignation of the people,—nor does he lose sight for a moment of the permanent results which must be achieved by the war, in his eagerness to achieve some immediate and brilliant advantage. The dominant feature of the Message is its plain, clear common sense. It appeals to the judgment,—the solid convictions of the people, rather than their resentments or their impatient hopes and aspirations.

The President gives but little attention to our foreign relations, and makes no reference whatever to the incident which is in every one's mind in connection with them,—the seizure of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL on board the British mail steamer *Trent*. We may infer from this specific omission, that the affair has not yet become the subject of remonstrance or complaint,—and from the general tone of the Message, that our relations of amity with other nations continue undisturbed;—and that we are exposed to no other dangers from foreign Powers than those which always "necessarily attend domestic difficulties." In the only specific complaint mentioned as having been made by the British Government, that of the detention of the *Perthshire*, the President recommends reparation on the broad ground,—which has an obvious application to every similar case of unintentional wrong—that "justice requires that we should commit no belligerent act not founded in strict right, as sanctioned by public law." The efforts of the rebels to obtain sympathy and aid abroad are referred to as having proved thus far unsuccessful, because, in the absence of any higher motive, those nations which need a supply of cotton "have not yet seen their way to that object more directly or clearly through the destruction than through the preservation of the Union." Meantime, as a measure of ordinary prudence and precaution, the President recommends attention to our sea-coast and frontier defences.

In regard to the Supreme Court, which has become wholly unsuited and inadequate to the performance of its duties, the President recommends a reorganization, based on the following principles:

"Three modifications occur to me, either of which I think would be an improvement upon our present system. Let the Supreme Court be of convenient number in every event.

Then, first, let the whole country be divided into circuits of convenient size, the Supreme Judges to serve in a number of them corresponding to their own number, and independent Circuit Judges be provided for all the rest.

Or, secondly, let the Supreme Judges be relieved from Circuit duties, and Circuit Judges provided for all the Circuits.

Or, thirdly, dispense with Circuit Courts altogether, leaving the judicial functions wholly to the District Court and an independent Supreme Court."

He advises a revision and codification of the laws of Congress, in order to make them at once more accessible and more intelligible; suggests the propriety of making the judgments of the Court of Claims final;—advises some effective temporary provision for the administration of justice in all such parts of the insurgent States and Territories as may be under control of the Government;—deems the restoration of the original boundaries of the District of Columbia desirable;—and commends to favorable attention sundry practical recommendations of the Secretaries of War and the Navy.

In regard to the question of Slavery, President LINCOLN speaks with firmness, but marked and conscientious moderation. He declares that, "in considering the policy to be adopted for our suppressing the insurrection, he has been anxious and careful that *the inevitable conflict for this purpose shall not degenerate into a violent and remorseless revolutionary struggle*; and has, therefore, in every case thought it proper to keep the integrity of the Union prominent as the primary object of the contest on our part, leaving all questions which are not of vital military importance to the more deliberate action of the Legislature." With regard to the negroes whom the progress of the war sets free and throws upon our hands, he suggests the propriety of providing for their *colonization*,—and also of accepting such slaves as may be freed by State action in lieu *pro tanto* of direct taxes. We apprehend that the project of colonizing the negroes will be found open to more objections than occur at first sight. They will be imperatively needed to cultivate the soil, and the expense of the scheme would be beyond any direct benefits to be expected from it. We think the Government will find it necessary to establish for them some effective police government here, *at home*, and retaining their labor instead of sending them out of the country. Whatever slaves shall come into possession of the Government, he thinks should at once be deemed free.

These are the leading features of the Message. The document is written in the vigorous, compact and unostentatious style which is eminently characteristic of the President,—and will be read with pleasure and satisfaction by the country at large.

The Slavery Question—Some Practical Work For the Government.

We print a letter from Washington this morning from an old correspondent of the TIMES, whose signature of "YEOMAN" will probably be recognized, as the author of the most valuable series of letters from the Seaboard and other Slave States ever published in an American newspaper. He discusses the relations of Slavery to the Rebellion,—and especially the belief, universal at the South and widely current in the Northern States, that Slavery contributes to the military strength of the South. He regards this as utterly fallacious, and refers to the incidents which took place on the capture of Port Royal as conclusive in its refutation. The fact that the slaves of that region,—the most ignorant, secluded, and the least likely to be informed of the objects and progress of the war, refused to follow their masters when ordered away, and came voluntarily to our troops for protection, shows conclusively that we can *paralyze* whatever power Slavery contributes to the rebellion, just as fast as our armies penetrate the interior. He suggests that if the Government should take possession of certain districts, or mere fortified points in the South, at convenient distances around the planting region, and make them *asylums* for negroes, the very existence of such harbors of refuge would exert a prodigious effect upon the whole slave population of the Southern States.

Our correspondent's remarks on this point are eminently practical and worthy of consideration. They suggest one aspect of this general subject which must command the speedy attention of the Government and country—and that is the practical provision to be made for the *support, government and education of the negroes*, whom the progress of the war will inevitably throw upon our hands. The loud clamor about emancipation is worse than idle, until something has been done towards providing for the negroes already set free. Any man with half an eye can see that whatever the Government may do, or not do, about emancipation, it will very speedily have thousands and tens of thousands of these people on its hands—if it persists, as it should, in pushing the war into the heart of the Southern States. Every naval expedition that lands National troops on the Southern coast draws to the immediate shelter of our flag thousands of slaves, and infects the entire slave population for leagues around with discontent and the desire for freedom. This fact creates a state of things for which the Government must make prompt and effective provision. *It has no right to merely let these negroes loose.* It has no right to release them, directly or indirectly, from the control of their masters and of State laws without subjecting them to some other law equally effective.

The *Tribune* a few days since had a letter from Port Royal, giving this picture of the condition of the negroes there:

"*The negroes in the vicinage are holding high carnival.* None are received by Gen. SHERMAN except the very few who can make themselves useful. The rest, though they hang about the forts during the day, are sent back to the plantations at night. They bring provisions to the soldiers, which they sell at very low prices. Chickens can be had at 25 cents a pair, and very fair bullocks at $5 a piece.

Beaufort is still deserted by white men. Three Union gunboats lie there, and others pass up and down the river occasionally. *The negroes destroy and carry off everything they can lay their hands on. Pianos, mirrors, and other valuable property, are ruthlessly destroyed.* Anything they think useful they carry off to an island, *where they are establishing a settlement of their own, and where they think they will be allowed to live in security.* They have plenty of provisions. The crops are said to be heavier this year than for ten years past. The rice crop was secured before the arrival of the expedition.

Great quantities of cotton were stored in barns and storehouses. As many as 2,000 bales were seen on one plantation ready for market. Gen. SHERMAN, however, refuses to seize it. He says it is not contraband of war, and he has no authority to seize any other property.

Probably half of the crop, however, was not picked, or, if picked, not ginned, and would be lost, *as the negroes have no idea of doing any labor since their taskmasters have fled.*"

Now, this state of things is perfectly horrible. It cannot be continued without covering the Government with disgrace, and filling the South with vast dens of lawless, thieving, marauding and murderous negro savages. Any man who expects the negroes, as soon as they are delivered from Slavery, to enter upon voluntary labor, and organize society and civilization for themselves, must know as little of human nature as of the negro character. Neither they, nor any other class of men on the face of the earth, under similar circumstances, could safely be thus suddenly released from the restraints of authority and law. It would be far better for all concerned that every negro should be sent back to his master, than thus turned loose and suffered to plant nests of thieves and pirates all along the Southern coast. *Any* law is better for anybody than *no* law. The law of the plantation is better for the negro than utterly lawless abandonment to his own passions.

The Government must give these men law, must establish over them authority, in the place of that which it has abolished. As Mr. BEECHER suggested in his Thanksgiving sermon, it must create a "provisional government" of some kind for the negroes whom the war may set free. And it should lose no time in this important and indispensable work.

Report of the Secretary of the Navy—The Stars and Stripes on Sea.

The Secretary of the Navy is happy in being able to make his report at a time when the whole country rings with applause at the brilliant service lately rendered by the arm of the National service which he directs. The story of the Stars and Stripes on sea will not fall on cold or apathetic ears, for the navy is the peculiar pride of America—our glory in peace, our triumph in war. At the outbreak of the rebellion, the public instinct spontaneously pointed to it as the arm on which we should chiefly rely. Our ships have sailed freighted with the Nation's hopes, and the country has a right to read with jealous interest the record of their achievements.

The report of Secretary WELLES assumes a peculiar interest from the fact that it is not merely a review of maritime operations, but the history of the *creation* of a navy. When the rebellion broke out, our available naval force consisted of just a dozen ships—scarcely sufficient for ordinary police purposes. The other thirty vessels composing our old navy were off in the East Indies, in the Mediterranean, on the African Coast, and elsewhere.

Of course the Department had to direct all its energies to augmenting our maritime force, and the history of its labors toward this end—in pushing forward the work of repairing and putting in commission the vessels that were dismantled and in ordinary at the different Navy-yards, recalling the foreign squadrons, constructing new vessels suited for the new exigencies, and fitting out many others taken from the mercantile marine—are told with all desired fullness in the Secretary's Report. What the present condition of the navy is, Mr. WELLES does not tell us. This is an omission to be regretted, for if a Report of the Secretary of the Navy has one object more than another, one would suppose it was to give a clear exhibit of the actual *status* of our maritime force. But if he is not very clear as to the present, Mr. WELLES holds out a brilliant picture of the future. When the vessels now building and purchased, of every class, are armed, equipped and ready for service, the United States will be able to show a navy of 264 vessels, armed with 2,557 guns, and manned by 22,000 seamen!

Some idea of the magnitude of the demands on the navy may be formed from the fact that, with such force as was at the command of the Department, it was necessary to institute three different lines of naval operations:

1. The closing of all the insurgent ports along a coast line of nearly three thousand miles, in the form and under the exacting regulations of an international blockade.

2. The organization of combined naval and military expeditions, to operate in force against various points of the Southern coast.

3. The active pursuit of the piratical cruisers which might escape the vigilance of the blockading force and put to sea from the rebel ports.

No one, we presume, will dispute that this triple task is rightly characterized by the Secretary as "more arduous than has been before demanded of the maritime power of any nation."

In the historical *resumé* of naval operations there is a semi-apologetic tone, as though the Secretary had in mind the criticism which the conduct of naval affairs has at times called forth. It is not necessary to follow the Secretary in his references to the various points, concerning which the failures of the navy to accomplish all that was expected of it by the country have been somewhat conspicuous. One hundred and fifty-three vessels have been captured while attempting to break the blockade. The Secretary estimates the requirements of his Department for the next fiscal year at over forty-four millions dollars. This is a large sum—but the public will cheerfully furnish all this and more, if there is but evidence of its bringing forth fruit. We feel well assured there will be such fruit. The Department has already given evidence that it is capable of profiting even by its failures. It has also given us a brilliant initial chapter of a new record—to be followed up, we trust, in the like style! The country watches the navy with a jealous solicitude—for to its wooden walls are intrusted not the life of an individual Cæsar merely, but the sacred trust of the honor of the Imperial Republic.

MILITARY PREPARATIONS IN CANADA.—Our Quebec correspondent informed us a few days since that a Conncil of the military authorities of Canada had determined to put the Province *in a condition of defence*,—to strengthen its existing fortifications, to build new ones where required along the frontier line, and to take such other measures as the emergency might demand. We copy a paragraph from the Toronto *Leader*, which fully confirms these statements. That paper speaks of the tour of Sir FENWICK WILLIAMS through Upper Canada,—of the movement of munitions of war from the seaboard to the interior, and the construction of new fortifications upon the Lake coasts, as proving the determination of England to exert its whole power for the protection of Canada in the event of hostilities with the United States. It refers, moreover, to these proceedings as indicating the *probability*, in Lord PALMERSTON'S opinion, of collision.

We think the *Leader* draws much too broad an inference from its premises. The mere possibility of war affords sufficient reason why Canada should be put into a condition of military strength, for the whole brunt of the war would be directed against her from the very outset. And the relations of the two countries, it must be confessed, are of so delicate a character as to render ample preparation on both sides not only justifiable, but absolutely necessary.

Opdyke Elected Mayor!

The election yesterday resulted in a brilliant victory. Mayor WOOD was not only defeated, but stands the lowest of the candidates on the list. The vote, according to the official returns received last night, gives the following aggregates:

OPDYKE	25,258
GUNTHER	24,639
WOOD	24,084

This gives OPDYKE 619 over GUNTHER, and 1,173 over WOOD, who falls 553 behind GUNTHER. It is probable that these figures may be somewhat changed, on a close official canvass of the votes, but it is not at all likely that the result will be changed.

This end of a sharply-contested election carries its own comment. The aggregate vote cast—73,981, or ten thousand more than were cast at the State election in November—indicates the general interest felt in the issue, which will give universal satisfaction to the whole community.

The European Expedition against Mexico—The Claims of France and England.

When we analyze the causes of the European expedition against Mexico, it is impossible to conceive of any reasonable motive that France can have in joining the coalition and furnishing a portion of naval and land forces for belligerent purposes in the Mexican Republic.

Spain has her ancient lust for dominion and power in the New World to gratify, and a few disputed points to settle. England brings forward large pecuniary claims and a list of grievances inflicted upon her citizens, but France has absolutely nothing of which to complain against Mexico.

The debt due to French citizens from Mexico, as adjudicated by the Convention of April, 1857, was $268,490 33. This debt has since been paid, and the public account between the two countries is balanced.

It is true that the recently appointed French Minister to Mexico, Mons. SALIGNY, had in his hands for collection when he passed through this City some months ago, *en route* for Mexico, claims of French citizens against Mexico to the amount of 6,000,000 francs. But how did these claims accrue? For the most part they are based on alleged robberies and outrages committed on French citizens by the Miramon Government, acting under the inspiration and direction of Mons. GABRIAC, the then officiating French Minister. This new batch of French claims against Mexico, and the outrages perpetrated on French citizens in that Republic, of which France complains, have accumulated during the past four years; and they are the results of the open and direct acts of Mons. GABRIAC, as Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of his Imperial Highness the Emperor NAPOLEON. It is only necessary to refer to the several memorials presented to the French Emperor, by French citizens residing in Mexico, relative to the acts of the Count DE GABRIAC, to fully substantiate the foregoing statement. Neither the present constitutional Government of Mexico nor the Republic at large have, therefore, anything to do with the settlement of these French demands on Mexico, the French Government alone being responsible for the acts of its representative, though certain citizens of the country to which he was accredited, may be held by the local authorities as *particeps criminis*.

There is, however, a very large item, which will doubtless appear among the pecuniary claims of France. The Administration of MIRAMON, in 1859 and 1860, issued its bonds as the bonds of the Mexican Government, for upwards of $15,000,000. These bonds were principally taken by the banker JECKER at the trifling sum of three cents on the dollar. It is said that GABRIAC, the French Minister, was a party with JECKER in the operation. JECKER a Swiss by birth, claims to be a French citizen, and the statement of his grievances is lodged with the French Legation. The triumph of the Constitutional Government put an end to the nefarious pecuniary schemes of MIRAMON and his finances, and JECKER failed. The intrigues of this banking house to obtain security for the $15,000,000 issue of bonds by the Miramon Administration, taken at three cents on the dollar, have constituted a powerful element of trouble to the Juarez Government, which has persistently refused to acknowledge the transaction. It is now well understood that JECKER and GABRIAC have exerted a powerful influence with the French Government in urging its interference with Mexican affairs, and it is supposed that a large share of these $15,000,000 bonds has been portioned out to parties near the imperial throne. That France, in her demand upon Mexico, will present this outrageous claim, there is no reason to doubt; and the exposition of this affair affords one of many examples of how the Mexican people have been cheated and bullied by the unprincipled and desperate foreign speculators who, for more than thirty years have been sucking the life-blood of the nation.

The country that presents the largest pecuniary claims against Mexico, and the most extended list of grievances, is England, for the simple reason that she has had more to do in the management of the affairs of the country than any other foreign nation.

The first loan made by Mexico with a foreign party was that concluded in London with the house of GOLDSMIDT & Co. Mexican bonds were issued for $16,000,000. They sold in London at the heavy shave of fifty per cent. or $8,000,000, the house of GOLDSMIDT receiving for commission, payment of interest, &c., $2,099,680, leaving to Mexico the net amount of $5,900,320, and bearing interest at five per cent. per annum. In 1824 another Mexican loan was made in London with the house of BARCLAY & Co. Mexico issued her bonds for $16,000,000 and received therefor the net sum of $5,393,991, bearing interest at six per cent. per annum. Mexico subsequently issued new bonds which were sold in London at a heavy discount, and which, with arrearages of interest, amounted, according to the convention of April, 1857, to the sum of $51,208,250, all bearing interest at the rate of three per cent. per annum. This is called the English Bond debt. The English speak of this debt as amounting, in round numbers to $60,000,000, the difference arising from the accumulation of unpaid interest. The smaller sum appears, however, to have been the amount fixed upon by the Convention of April, 1857, which was the last Convention for the regulation of foreign claims on Mexico.

The next principal English claim is that known as the British Convention debt. This arises principally from alleged seizures, damages, &c., appertaining to the English Tobacco Company, and the basis of settlement was arranged by the British Minister, Mr. PACKENHAM, in 1845. Subsequently the British Convention proper was made and signed, with the English Minister, Mr. DOYLE, on the 4th of December, 1851, with the sole view of paying off the claims of British subjects. But tobacco credits belonging to other parties, and even Mexican interior bonds were surreptitiously worked into this Convention and placed on the same footing as pure British claims. The claim of $826,720, known as the Padre Moran claim, settled by a Spanish Convention, and having nothing to do with English interests, was also attached to the British Convention debt, which, in April, 1857, amounted to $5,376,865, making, in round numbers, the total public debt claimed by England of Mexico, $65,000,000. It should be stated, however, that of the $5,876,865 British Convention debt, English parties appear in the list of proprietors only to the amount of $268,628 85.

English citizens make another pecuniary claim on Mexico, based on what is termed the "*Consumo Duty*," and though this has been under revision for some years, no definite result has been reached.

To the foregoing public amounts claimed from Mexico may be added the private claims of English citizens, based on seizures of goods, duties overcharged, forced loans, &c., &c.—probably amounting in the aggregate to several millions. The $865,000 interest money, belonging to the English bondholders, that had accumulated in the City of Mexico and burglariously taken from the strong box of the English Legation in that city by MIRAMON, in October, 1860, constitutes a considerable item in this account, that should not be forgotten.

To the list of English pecuniary claims should be added the outrages committed in Mexico on the persons of English citizens resident in that country, commencing with the massacres at Tacubaya by the Church-Brigand forces under MIRAMON in April, 1858, when Dr. DUVAL, while attending the wounded, was taken and shot.

But when we look at the statement of outrages against English citizens in Mexico, as as well as those of other nationalities—and it is certainly of a damnatory character—each instance of robbery and murder should be carefully and candidly examined, with the view of ascertaining by whom and under what circumstances the deed was committed, and who are really responsible for these various acts of violence. The same careful and candid examination should be accorded to the pecuniary claims brought against Mexico by foreigners. We do not deny that in all these matters, more or less of wrong must be attributed to Mexico; but we do not hesitate to state that, in our opinion, Mexico, comparatively speaking, is innocent; and that the greater guilt, the real responsibility of those pecuniary delinquencies on the part of Mexico and the acts of violence foreigners have suffered in that country, rests with the very nations who now, under the pretext of enforcing just claims and establishing order, are about to lay violent hands on Mexican territory and destroy Mexican nationality.

More Light from the South.

Evidences of the latent Unionism of the South begin to crop out more and more every day. Whether it be that the advance of our army is giving courage to the depressed and terrified loyalists, or whether it is that rebel tyranny is becoming so intolerable as to drive those who were once freemen to extremes, makes no difference. The sentiment evidently exists, and is beginning to make itself felt.

This morning we have news *viâ* Norfolk that a Union "conspiracy" had been discovered in New-Orleans, causing great excitement there, and that many arrests were being made. This comes immediately on the heels of the news from Western North Carolina, mentioned by the President in his Message, of the existence of an actively loyal element in the mountains, which, as we learn from other sources, will spring into life, armed for the fight, as soon as the gleaming Flag of the Union can be seen on the hill-tops. Even from the dismal coast of South Carolina we hear, as soon as our troops land there, the voice of that brave man, Mr. PETIGRU, protesting against the Confederate despotism, and offering to lay down his life as a testimony to the sincerity of his convictions.

In Tennessee the Union camp fires burn bright among the mountains. In the two peninsular counties of Virginia which have just been restored to the Union, we now find that where but a month ago the people seemed to coincide with secession, they are really nearly all *Unionists*. From every quarter the stars that herald the coming day begin to appear; and as the Stars and Stripes advance southward, they will appear thicker and brighter, till the world will be astonished that it could ever have thought there was nothing but blackness there.

The French revolutionary butcher MARAT said that he would undertake to govern France with ten determined assassins; and the facts of his subsequent career and of the Reign of Terror, show that he was not very wide of the mark. So in the South it is but a few hundred assassins that have established and keep up the reign of terror and secession; and as they know that the permanence of their rule depends upon its absoluteness, they have crushed out with the iron hand every spark of freedom or of opposition to their will. But it seems that, after all, they are unable to crush them out effectually.

New-Orleans, as every one knows, who knows anything about it, has many Union men still resident in it; and we are rejoiced